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SATURDAY, JULY 20, 1833.

PRICE 8d.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

urnal of a Week at Cambridge. III.

On the Thursday, into the centre of which our Journal has now led us, it was announced from the general committee, that the place of meet-ing for the next year had been appointed for Edinburgh, and that the period fixed was September, and probably, (as would be hereafter made known), the early part of the month. The following list of officers for the ensuing year was also circulated :-

as also circulated: —

President, Sir T. M. Briabane, G.C.H. K.C.B.
Vice-Presidents, (Dr. Robinson (of Armagh).
Secretary, Rev. W. V. Harcourt.
Assistant Secretary, Mr. John Phillips.
Treasurer, Mr. John Taylor.
Secretaries for Edinburgh, M. J. Robison,
and Professor Forbes.

— Dublin, Prof. Lloyd, and M. Luby.
— Oxford, Dr. Daubeny, Prof. Powell.
— Cambridge, Rev. Mr. Whewell, and
Professor Henslow.

It was also intimated that a geological meeting would take place at Clermont, in Auvergne, on the 25th of August, to which district, so rich in the natural products of importance in that study, the friends of the science were in-

vited by their French brethren.*

The chairman farther stated, that Lord Farnborough having presented to the Master and Fellows of Pembroke College a bust of Pitt, by Chantrey, the members of the British Association and all other loves of the fine arts were invited to view it. Lord Farnborough, being himself a member of another ege, was prompted to this distinguished act of liberality solely by a desire to honour the memory of his friend in the college where he had been educated. Many members availed themselves of this notice; and the finely executed bust was greatly admired. We might Newton, in the chapel of Trinity College, was an object of delightful attraction to all the strangers in Cambridge: by some alterations about the adjaining about the adjoining monuments, it is now seen

to more advantage than formerly.

A dinner was this day given in St. John's College to as numerous a party of the Associa-tion as the hall could entertain. We had the honour of partaking of the hospitalities of the smaller College of Magdalene, where, independsmaller College of Magdalene, where, independently of the pleasure of associating with men whose politeness and intellectual endowments would be appreciated in the highest circles out of these studious solitudes, we enjoyed an opportunity of spending some hours in looking over the curious and interesting memorabilia of the Penvisin Libeauv. What a mine of enterthe Pepysian Library. What a mine of enter-taining research remains here to be explored! We revelled in it, while the hours seemed minutes; and variety after variety succeeded to shew us how little there is new under the sun. Pepys collected every thing—the most minute and trivial, as well as the beautiful

and important. Volumes of half-penny ballads, view. The explanation given by Newton in folios of caricatures and paltry prints, fine engravings, rare and scarce tracts, remarkable correspondence, the lies of the day, and the secret truths of the government, have all equal place in his ark. And how like the inventions and novelties which have appeared within the succeeding century and a half many of them are! How we stared at these old faces of many of our recent friends! Turn but the hour-glass: the running of the sand of humanity is pretty much the same whichever end is uppermost; and that all that was, or is, has is uppermost; and that all that was, or is, has been, or will be again, is as obvious as the repetition of the phenomena of that simple glass. We wished for a good long year to inspect these Pepysian stores at leisure; but it may not be; and all we shall at present say of them is, that we noticed a good engraving of Mercury teaching Cupid to read, the picture sold at Mr. Erard's late sale; and, what was yet more curious, a print in which the original of the lady of Hogarth's Mariage à la mode, with her patches on her face, was distinctly portrayed. Hogarth copied this piquant face, on which he has laid the finest specimen of his colouring. Among the T. Moore-ish jeu d'esprits of the time of Charles II. the following neat trifle was new to us :-

To a Lady, with a pair of Gloves. Fairest, to thee I send these gloves; If you love me, leave out the g, And make a pair of loves.

We may just allude to the prodigious quantity of ribaldry and licentiousness which seems to have been common and popular in the days of Pepys - if not a more moral, we are assuredly a more decent people than we

In the evening the usual meeting took place in the Senate House; after most of the sections had been engaged in various discussions. The lady attendance was more numerous and gay than before; and the paper read by Professor Whewell was a most interesting one on tides, illustrated by very ingenious maps and ma-chinery. Of this paper, the reading of which occupied an hour and a half, it is utterly out of our power to offer a correct outline, even in the most meagre form: we can only transcribe the brief report of one of the local newspapers. Professor Whewell said he really felt that

he needed some apology, as he was well aware there were many persons who might with more justness ask their attention. The subject he was about to present to them was not merely as an exhibition of what we knew, but in order that it might be the means of our knowing something more. He remarked that it was in the power of many to make ob-servations which would add to the knowledge we now possessed, and might lead, by com-

finition; the general principle was clear, but the detail was encumbered with difficulties. Whether we treated the subject as Newton did, or as La Place had since done, we still found it embarrassed with difficulties with which analysts had contended in vain. He considered the subject in two points of view - first, as produced by the motion of the tide-wave, and secondly, in reference to the changes produced by the sun and moon in the position of the tide-wave, as had been noticed by La Place in France, and by Mr. Lubbock in England. He had directed the principal part of his atthe had directed the principal part of his attention to the tide-wave—and here our know-ledge was in its infancy. Leaving altogether out of sight those generalities and abstractions regarding the motion of tides, under which they were generally considered when treated as a problem in mathematics, namely, the consideration of the clobe as article of water. sideration of the globe as entirely of water, and introducing those necessary rude and indefinite circumstances of oceans, arms, and branches, surrounded by continents having rivers, creeks, and bays. However difficult to determine how the tides travelled, they might be considered as one wave passing from one part to another — the wave one wide ex-panse of waters. This wave travels from the Antarctic ocean, passes through the Atlantic, and then visits our shores. The wave of which he was speaking was probably a wave where the crests of two successive ridges met, which originally might have flowed ten or twenty thousand miles apart from each other, and where the elevation was probably not more than twelve or six feet. This differed from the common wave, but was, nevertheless, a protuberance of the waters. The learned professor then shewed how the time of high water, or as it is called, "the establishment of a place," on the day of a new or full moon, was ascertained; and this determined the time of tide on every other day: and as the motion of the moon was uniform, the time of high water depended on the time of the new moon. He went on to observe, that if our travellers and navigators had furnished an accurate account of the time of high water in every place on the day of the new or full moon, we should have been able to draw a map which would shew the course of the tide-wave with great accuracy. [The learned professor illustrated this part of his subject by referring to maps, which he had drawn expressly for the occasion.] The motion of the tide-wave suggested the motion of a wave, but the motion of the tide-wave was very different from the motion of the wave itself, which he illustrated by observing that, when a long pendant or streamer is flying at the mast-head of a vessel, bination, to utility, coherence, and dependence upon theory. He did not pretend to give a theory of tides, or to trace them to their cause; this had been done far better by others; nor would that be necessary on the present occasion for the purpose he had in water, as given at different places, and in-

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At the conclusion of this paper we have inserted a letter from M. A. Logan, which announces another scien-tific meeting in France; and is intimately connected with the subjects of which we are recording the leading points—Ed. L. G.

stanced Eddystone and Plymouth, which are distant only twelve miles, yet time of high water is said to be three hours later at Eddystone than at Plymouth. This mistake he attributed to the application of the term tide to two different things. He concluded this part of his subject by remarking, that apparently the tide-wave which comes to our shores is not produced by the sun and moon acting on the waters of our shores, nor is it produced by the sun and moon acting on the Atlantic. The Atlantic is not the mother of tides, but is, in fact, merely a channel through which the tide is emitted. The tide wave comes from the Atlantic, travelling along just as a wave occasioned by a boat is seen travelling along a canal. The learned pro-fessor, on the second part of his subject, on the dependence of the time and circumstances of high water on the sun and moon, entered into an interesting detail, illustrating his observations by reference to the maps to which we have before alluded, and was listened to with the most profound attention till five minutes past eleven, when he sat down amidst grateful plaudits.

Professor Farish then addressed the meeting on the subject of rail-roads, which seemed to have taken complete possession of his own mind; but as the topic and its mode of discussion did not interest the auditory, some symptoms of impatience were manifested, and

the evening closed.

At one of the meetings of the Physical Section, previously referred to, a notice was read, illustrated by experiments, by Mr. Arthur Trevelyan, on the phenomena of the vibration of heated metals when placed on cold metals, which first attracted his attention in the year 1829. The discovery was accidental: I was employing at the time (said Mr. T.) a heated polished iron instrument, which, being at too high a temperature for the use intended, I placed it in a slanting direction against the bevelled edge of a block of lead, the handle of the instrument resting on the table; shortly after doing so, a shrill tone was heard, which continued for some time; after looking about for a short period, both in and out of the room, to try to find out the cause of the sound, I at last perceived that it proceeded from the iron instrument.

Since the time of the discovery, I have suc-ceeded in obtaining vibration with most metals; amongst the metals I have tried, bismuth stands alone as a non-vibrator. Some of the metals vibrate when heated and placed on cold metals, others when placed cold on heated

A cold lead-block, placed on the heated polished bar of a fire-grate, sounds loudly, and vibrates rapidly; the vibration continues in the exhausted receiver of an air-pump. The bars begin to vibrate on lead at a temperature below 212° Fahrenheit, but on harder metals they require a higher temperature. By the aid of a spirit-lamp, I kept a bar vibrating and sounding 5 hours and 55 minutes; I then re-moved the lamp, but think it might probably be kept up any length of time. When the bar, at a high temperature, is placed on the cool lead, the vibration seldom fails taking place spontaneously and instantly. The bars vibrate best when placed on blocks of lead with the surface somewhat rough; both metals should be also kept clean, and free from oxidation, which impairs the vibration. The shape of the bars and blocks is of little consequence, except for the more delicate experiments with the hard metals. On lead, the hard metal almost of any form will vibrate when heated.

the pressure the higher is the note-pressure also applied to the sounding-board, or table, on which the vibrating bar may happen to be placed, changes the tone. A common poker heated and placed on a lead block, vibrates, producing deep tones. Any substance, however thin, and either fluid or solid, when interposed between the bar and the block, prevents vibra-tion, excepting a burnish with gold-leaf. If the heated bar be ground smooth on the resting part, and the block be also smooth, no vibration takes place. When the bar and block become of the same temperature, the vibration ceases, and consequently the sound also.

We come to the following conclusions from

the above related experiments:

1. That in order to produce the vibrations, metals must be employed either of the same kind, or different, for both the bars and blocks.

That the difference of temperature between the two metals must be considerable, although some require a much higher temperature than others

3. That the surface of the block shall have some degree of unevenness, for when rendered quite smooth the vibration does not take place; but the har cannot be too smooth.

4. That the interposition of any matter prevents vibration, with the exception of a burnish of gold leaf, which cannot amount to the 200,000 part of an inch.

5. That the air has no share in the production of the vibratory movements, however much its presence is essential to the production of

6. Although all the metals are not found to vibrate on each other, or on metals of the same kind, and I have not been able to produce vi-bration with other substances, yet I do not despair but that, hereafter, when this subject is etter understood, we shall be able to produce vibration with all the metals, and with all other matter, either solid or liquid, when heat is applied to a cool substance, or vice versû.

The following theory, which is partly derived from the late Professor Leslie's mode of accounting for the vibration, appears the most probable, (and experiments hitherto made strengthen this view), and ascribes the vibra-tory movements to the usual mechanical changes which caloric occasions in passing from one substance into another __ I mean the expansion and contraction which accompany alternations of temperature.

It appears that some degree of roughness of one metal is essential to the success of the operation. This slight asperity arises from numberless points or ridges projecting from the

mass of metal.

When the heated bar is laid upon the cool lead block, the caloric passes into these prominences; and as their power of conduction is not great, it does not rapidly diffuse itself through the rest of the mass; of course they instantly expand and elongate, and by that sudden elongation they give an impulse to the incumbent bar. Soon, however, the caloric moves into the adjoining mass, and the prominences contract, and at the same time come into a state ready to admit a renewed accession of caloric from the bar; they receive that caloric, again expand, and give a second impulse to the bar. This goes on incessantly; and though the first impulse be infinitely small and altogether inadequate to produce any sensible movement of the bar, yet, by incessant repetition, an accumulation of effect takes place, and the movements gradually reach a magnitude suffi-cient to become easily discernible. I think,

Pressure on the bar alters the note-the greater from the above experiments, and the conclusions and theory drawn from them, the hitherto unknown causes of many sounds are now accounted for.

The paper was concluded by an interesting account of some experiments on the vibration of heated metals, by Dr. William Knight, Pro-fessor of Natural Philosophy in Marischal Col-

lege, Aberdeen.

Mr. Babbage having enforced upon the meet. ing the great advantage to science which would result from devising a collection of numbers, which should serve as constants in defining all facts in nature or art; he was requested to illus. trate this important proposition, and in return produced the following paper from the Edin-burgh Journal of Science, for which he had written it.

" Amongst those works of science which are too large and too laborious for individual efforts, and are, therefore, fit objects to be undertaken by united academies, I wish to point out one which seems eminently necessary at the present time, and which would be of the greatest advantage to all classes of the sci. entific world. I would propose that its title should be " The Constants of Nature and of It ought to contain all those facts which can be expressed by numbers in the various sciences and arts. A better idea will be formed by giving an outline of its proposed contents, and it may, perhaps, be useful to indicate the sources whence much of the information may be drawn. These constants should consist of-

1. All the constant quantities belonging to our system; as distance of each planet, period of revolution, inclination of orbit, &c., pro-portion of light received from sun, force of gravity on surface of each. These need not be further enumerated, as they have already been

collected, and need only be copied.

2. The atomic weights of bodies. These may be taken from Berzelius, Thomson, or Turner. The proportions of the elements of various compounds—acids with bases, metals with oxygen, &c. These may be taken from the best treatises on chemistry.

the best treatises on chemistry.

3. A list of the metals, with columns containing specific gravity, elasticity, tenacity, specific heat, conducting power of heat, conducting power of heat, conducting power, proportion of rays reflected out of 1000, at an incidence of 90°.

4. List of specific gravities of all bodies. 5. List of refractive indices, dispersive indices, polarising angles, angles formed by the axes of double refraction in crystals. These may be extracted from the writings of Brewster, Mitscherlich, Herschel, Biot.

 Number of known species of mammalia, birds, reptiles, fishes, mollusca, worms, crustacea, insects, zoophytes. These classes might be further subdivided. Additional columns should shew how many of each are found in a

fossil state, and the proportion between the fossils of existing and extinct species.

7. List of mammalia, containing columns expressing height, length, weight, weight of skeleton, weight of each bone, its greatest length, its collections and the same in th skeleton, weight of each bone, its greatest length, its smallest circumference, its specific gravity; also the number of young at a birth, the number of pulsations per minute whilst the animal is in repose, the number of inspirations in the same circumstances, period of blindness after birth, period of sucking, period of maturity, temperature, average duration of life, proportion of males to females produced. It would be desirable to select some bone for the unity of weight, and perhaps of measu other merica haps, i few bo interes the bo trades, stitutio 8. (riods mortal

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ct some haps of other bones to this standard one. The nu-merical relations thus established might, per-haps, in some cases, identify the sexes, or even the races of the human species, when only a few bones were found. It would also be highly interesting to compare the relative weight of the bones of persons employed in different trades, and of persons dying from certain constitutional diseases.

8. Of man—average weight at various periods of existence, height of ditto, tables of mortality in various places, average duration of reigns of sovereigns, proportions of the sexes born under various circumstances, proportion of marriages under various circumstances, quantity of air consumed per hour, quantity of food necessary for daily support, average pro-portion of sickness amongst working classes, proportion of persons dying from different diseases. Many of these facts may be found in the writings of Villermé, Quetelet, Baily, Milne, &c.

Milic, &c.

9. Power of man and animals. A man labouring ten hours per day will saw () square feet of deal, ditto () elm, ditto () oak, &c., ditto Portland stone, ditto Purbeck; day's labour in mowing, ploughing, &c. &c.; every kind of labour; raising water one foot high; horse ditto, ox or cow ditto, camel. Power of steam-engines in Cornwall. Inclination of a road, both in degrees and number of feet, &c., or of a base on which carriages and horses can trot, walk, on which horses cannot ascend, on which man cannot, on which a cart cannot

10. Vegetable kingdom __ number of species known of monocotyledonous plants, number of species of dicotyledonous plants. Number of species of the various natural groups. Additional columns should shew the number of species known in a fossil state, together with in-that of extinct fossil species. Also average weight of vegetable produce of one acre in a the year, when under different modes of cultivation, hay, straw, wheat, turnips, and mangel-wurzel, potatoes, clover, &c.; produce of tim-

ber per acre.
11. Tables of the geographical distribution of animals and of plants, of the average period of maturity and decay in various woods, increase in weight annually at different periods, weight of potass produced from each, propor-

tion of heat produced by burning given weight.

12. Atmospheric phenomena. Weight of air above a square inch, square foot, an acre, a square mile of the earth's surface, barometer at 30 in. Weight of oxygen, of nitrogen, of carbonic acid, above the same spaces, under the same circumstances. Weight of water in vapour above ditto at various degrees of hygrometer. Depth of rain falling annually at various places, in inches; columns for number of years' observation; mean temperature; mean height of barometer; height of places above the sea; drainage of surface-water for one, two, three, to ten inches, from each square of 100 feet side, each acre, or square mile, expressed in cubic feet, in gallons, and in hogsheads, water discharged per 1" or 1', per hour, or per day, under various circumstances, as found by experiment; velocity of rivers and torrents to carry stones of given walch!

stances, resistance of fluids. Weight of coal to burn ten bushels of lime, weight of ashes to burn 10,000 bricks, of coke to make a ton of wrought iron, tallow to make soap, &c., and constants in all trades. See Rennie, Tredgold,

constants in all trades. See Rennie, Tredgold, Prony, Eytelwein, Venturi, &c.

14. Velocities — arrow, musket-ball at several distances, cannon-ball, sound, telegraph, light, birds. Day's journey. Man, horse, heavy waggon, stage-coach, mail-coach, camel, elephant, steam-carriage, steam-boat, balloon, greatest, average passage Liverpool to New York, &c.; of steam-boats, Dublin to Liverpool, London to Edinburgh, &c.

15. Length of all rivers, water discharged

15. Length of all rivers, water discharged per hour; seas, proportion of water to land on globe, area of all seas and lakes in square miles, areas of all islands and peninsulas and continents, heights of mountains death of continents, heights of mountains, depth of continents, neights of mountains, depen or mines from surface, quantity of water pumped out of mines. Heights of above 7000 points in Europe may be found in Oragraphie, the third volume of the "Transactions of the Geographical Society of Paris."

16. Population, extent in square miles, revenue, &c. of kingdoms; births, deaths, mar-riages, rate of increase, population of great

17. Buildings — height of all temples, pyramids, churches, towers, columns, &c.; also all single stones, as obelisks, and area covered by ditto, area of all great public buildings. Dimensions of all columns in ancient temples, length of all bridges, of span of each arch and height, also breadth of piers. Such tables may be found in Wiebeking, "Architecture Civile,"

18. Weights, measures, &c. — factors and their logarithms to convert all money of every country into English pounds sterling; ditto to convert weights of every country into English pounds avoirdupois; ditto foot and ell measures in every country into English feet; ditto mea-sures of area, acres, &c. into English acres; ditto liquid measures in every country into English imperial gallons. These are already collected in several works of Löhmann of Dresden. See also "Universal Cambist."

19. Tables of the frequency of occurrence of the various letters of the alphabet in different

languages,—of the frequency of occurrence of the same letters at the beginnings or endings of words,—as the second or as the penultimate letters of words,—of the number of double letters occurring in different languages, -of the proportion of letters commencing sirnames amongst different nations. See Quetelet, Jour-nal, also Dissertatio inauguralis Mathematica de literarum proportionibus, F. J. Adelmann, Bruxelles, 1829.

20. Table of number of books in great public libraries at given dates,—number of students at various universities. Observatories of the world,—Transit, length of diameter of objectworld,—Transit, length of diameter or object-glass, maker,—Circle, length of telescope, aper-ture, diameter of divided circle, maker. It would be desirable to give the date of the dif-ferent eras by which time is computed, and perhaps tables of the reigns of sovereigns. Also a chronological table, at least of scientific dis-coveries and their authors. In the above enu-mental which is far from complete, some few replace to which a column of any substance used in building may be carried before the lowest layer is crushed, weight necessary to crush a cubic inch of each, weight of cubic foot or cubic yard. Angles at which sand, gravel of various sized pebbles, snow, &c.

measure, and to give the proportion of all the support themselves. Strength necessary to pull The facts being all expressed in number, if a sunder various woods, bars of metal of various printed in a small type and well arranged, would not occupy a large space. Most of the haps, in some cases, identify the sexes, or even of various sizes, column for weight to be safely constants mentioned in this list already exist, the races of the human species, when only a borne by them, friction under various circumsist chiefly in a judicious selection of those which deserved the greatest confidence. The labour of extracting them from a great variety of volumes, and of reducing the weights and measures of other countries to our own, could be performed by clerks. To any individual who might attempt it, it must be a work of great labour and difficulty, and there are few persons possessing the varied knowledge which such a task implies whose talents might not be differently employed with more advantage to science. It is also certain that such an assemblage of facts, emanating from the collected judgment of many, would naturally command greater at-tention than if it were the produce of any single individual, however eminent. It appears, then, that such a work is particularly fitted to be the production of a body of men of science; and I would appeal to the great academies of Europe whether they would not, by combining in one volume so vast a collection of facts, confer an important advantage upon science and upon all who are occupied with its pursuits. I would suggest that three of the academies of Europe, perhaps the Royal Society, the Institute of France, and the Academy of Berlin, should each publish, at intervals of six years, their own table of the Constants of Nature and Art. Thus these publications might succeed each other at intervals of two years, and the man of science would always be able to refer to the most recent determinations of the constants he employs. In order to execute the work, sub-committees of one or two persons must be appointed to each department, who should be directed in the first instance to prepare the outline of the constants they propose to insert. These views should then be considered and classed by a small committee, consisting of persons of general views and of various knowledge. The sub-committee should then collect and reduce to certain standards the constants committed to them, and the whole should be printed under the general superin-tendence of the committee, but each part should be specially revised by its own sub-committee. A preface should be prepared, stating as shortly as possible the reasons for preferring or rejecting particular experiments or observations, and also, generally, the degree of accuracy the several subjects admit of. A good and concise system of references should be made to all the authorities for the numbers given. Whoever should undertake the first work of this kind would necessarily produce it imperfect; partly from omission, and partly from the many facts rom omission, and party from the many facts connected with natural history, which, although measured by number, have not yet been counted. But this very deficiency furnishes an important argument in favour of the attempt. It would be desirable to insert the heads of many columns, although not a single number could be placed within them; for they would thus point out many an unreaped field within our reach, which requires but the arm of the labourer to gather its produce into the granary of science. It is, however, to be hoped that no fear of the imperfection of a first attempt will deter either any individual or any body of men from an im-

admirable effect in exciting the ambition of the inquirers, to bestow such care as shall claim for their results a place in the volume, in which the academy shall record the condensed expression of the knowledge of their age and nation. If I should be successful in inducing any scien tific academy to enter in the task, I am confident that many a weary hour, now wasted in the search for existing knowledge, will be devoted to the creation of new, and that it will thus call into action a permanent cause of advancement towards truth, continually leading to the more accurate determination of established facts, and to the discovery and measurement of new ones."

[Such a plan, if executed, would, it is evident, be a definite and exact compendium of all the knowledge existing in the world; but if so was a design could not be completed, it is obvious that every approach to it would be a safe foundation on which to advance towards farther scientific discoveries and improvements.]

Among the correspondents whom we have to thank for answering the invitation given at the commencement of our Journal, we feel much indebted to the writer of the following letter, which corrects several errors, and communicates some interesting information on the sub-ject of our Report. It is from the pen of an individual highly and justly distinguished in

the proceedings of the Association:—
"Mr. Editor,—The pension to Dalton was indeed, no very ample remuneration to the founder of the atomic theory, for a whole life devoted to scientific labours; but do not represent it as less than it really is. The sum announced by the president, as from authority, was 150%. per annum, and not 100%. as you state in the No. of this week; and the extensive circulation of your Journal makes me the more anxious to correct this mistake, as well as one or two other (chiefly verbal) inaccuracies, which I have detected in your otherwise faithful and interesting account of the meeting of the British Association at Cambridge. Thus the name of the Brussel's astronomer was Quetelet and not Huetelet; that of the Cornish geologist, who on Tuesday evening entered the lists against Professor Buckland on the subject of the rocks and veins of his native county, was Dr. Boase, and not Boose; and the foreign savant who had borrowed Dal-ton's calculation relative to the quantity of carbonic acid which would be generated in the course of a century by animal respiration, combustion, &c., was Professor Prevost of Geneva, not Mr. Piefel.*

When speaking of Dr. Daubeny's paper, read at the Chemical Section, you might have added, that the discussion to which it gave rise was renewed the following morning, when Dr. Faraday came forward to state, that the calculation, which, without being aware of its being Dalton's, he had noticed, did not affect the question as to the existence of some compensating process for the influence of animals upon the atmosphere; and it was remarked others, that although no great difference in the constitution of the air we breathe would be produced during the comparatively short period that man had existed, yet that we are compelled, by geological considerations, to assign to races of animals of some land or other, a much more extended duration than we ascribe to that of man alone,—one, indeed of suffi-cient length to have brought about, by this time, an entire change in the properties of the atmosphere, if the effects of animal respiration

sated for.

Your comments upon the provost of King's will not be considered too severe by those who witnessed the consequences to which his extraordinary conduct gave rise; but it may be unfair to attribute to the peculiar constitution of the society what, perhaps, arose only from the idiosyncrasy of the individual head.

At the sister university, at least, during the meeting of last year, the college which, in its frame-work, and its privileges of exemption from academic rules, approximates most nearly to King's, — I mean New College, — distinguished itself by its liberal feeling towards the British Association, for whose reception the authorities tendered the use of their hall, at a time when some difficulty was experienced in finding a room sufficiently capacious to entertain so numerous an assemblage.

Allow me also to remark, that you seem carcely to do justice to the merits of Professor Lindley's report, when you denominate it " as recondite a piece of botanical nomenclature of science as ever taxed the understanding of a professor." To others it appeared that if the professor." To others it appeared that if the taste of the female part of the audience had been consulted, a portion of that time which was spent in listening to Mr. Rennie's report on hydraulics, might have been more agreeably occupied in discussing points connected with the more popular subject of vegetable physiology. After all, however, I should prefer the expedient of giving up one or two evenings in the week to popular lectures, adapted exclusively for mere amateurs, as was done at Oxford, rather than continue the system of introducing discussions on matters of science, chosen with reference to the mixed character of the audience admitted to the general meetings.

I fear the attempt to popularise subjects of this nature too frequently tends to introduce vague generalities, to the exclusion of those minute and detailed statements of facts which can alone satisfy the demands of science; whilst it may be doubted whether even the class of persons whose tastes are consulted in the selection made are possessed of the elementary knowledge necessary to enable them to derive either instruction or amusement from the de-bates which take place in consequence.

If you concede with me in these latter remarks, I would suggest that a hint to that effect in your next No. would not be without its use, in preventing a repetition of such discussions as that on Tuesday evening respecting mineral veins, which, notwithstanding the intelligent individuals that took part in it, was, I believe, generally allowed to be but little intelligible to the ladies; although, from the subject having been stripped, on their account, of its technicalities, geologists felt the necessity of recurring to it at their sectional meeting on the succeeding evening.

These, however, and the other little points to which you object with apparent reason, are, after all, but trifling blemishes in the conduct of a meeting which, I am sure, was productive to all present of high gratification at the time, and which may be contemplated as likely to be of permanent benefit to science, by attaching to its prosecution a greater measure of importance and consideration in the eyes of the public than it has hitherto enjoyed; and with a fair measure of this, all who are interested in its prosperity, however pure their own motives for exertion may be, will deem it politic to invest it when they consider the mixed character of all human action, whether literary or scientific distinction be the object sought. I kind.—Ed. L. G.

had not been in some way or other compen-|cannot therefore conclude without thanking you, as a member of the Association, for the additional publicity you have given to our pro-ceedings, through the medium of your widely extended Journal, of which I subscribe myself A CONSTANT READER.

We now add the letter alluded to in our first foot-note:-

Union Club-House, Trafalgar Square, July 16, 1833.

SIR,—France, following up the brilliant example of Germany and England, has just founded its annual Association of the friends of science; and the first meeting takes place next Saturday, at Caen. In perusing your lively and interesting report of the recent meeting at Cambridge, it struck me you might not be ill pleased to receive some account of the plan of operations which our French neigh. bours have laid down for their campaign. How it may work, time will shortly shew, and, I have no doubt, advantageously. The man of letters or of science may truly say with Molière, "Je reprends mes biens partout—où je les tronve;" for his property, being of the intellect, is in all countries, and he will therefore not hesitate to appropriate to his own and his country's use what may be good and desirable elsewhere. Hence, the plan in question may suggest some improvements in the organisation and extended usefulness of our congress, especially in reference to the hints which you yourself have thrown out on the want of subjects of an interest more general than an unrelieved series of disquisitions on the higher branches of abstract science, and profound speculations on the recondite and contested questions in geology, physiology, and the like. I may claim some credit for disinterestedness, in admitting that the last-mentioned sciences, although having a peculiar charm for me, may not for every body, and ought to yield a portion of space and time to studies which delight others, and contribute, in their respective fields of inquiry, to improve and embellish the mind, strengthen the moral character, and augment the sum of human welfare and happiness.

The best sketch, perhaps, that I can give of the plan proposed by the French Association is, to send you a translation of the letter of invitation recently sent to me when at Paris, by its worthy general secretary, M. de Caumont, one of those characters who by their high and varied attainments, activity in the cause of universal instruction, and private virtues as men and Christians, do honour to human nature. He is the original proposer of this Scientific Congress, as he was of the Society of Antiquaries, and the Linnean Society of Normandy, to both of which he is secretary, and an ample contributor to their Transactions. I deeply regret that the necessity of my return to England at this moment prevented my repairing to Caen.

You will perceive that their scheme is more comprehensive than ours, embracing, as it does, departments for archæology and history, for literature and the fine arts, and for the medical sciences,—all of which have hitherto been most unaccountably omitted from the scope of our annual reunion, but which omis-sions I hope will, in part at least, be supplied. What could be a more interesting and even useful field of inquiry and discussion than those topics which belong to the first-mentioned section: or what more strikingly appropriate, when we consider the perambulatory meetings branche enlighte kingdor Foun encoura

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Our own notes entirely agree with these corrections: we deviated from them in deference to other accounts, which we thought might be derived from more official source.—Ed. L. G.

^{*} The our prop hundred

of the Association? Now attention would be of the Association r. Now attention would be awakened to the antiquities, monuments, and history of those parts of the three kingdoms where the Association may in successive years assemble. The communications or reports under these heads would naturally be those large and philosophical views of the subject which, leaving details to the Societies expressly devoted to such inquiries, would constitute a series of authentic and accurate estimates or reports of all that relates to the monumental and other objects of interest in those districts, the emiment men they have produced, and the histori-cal events of which they have been the theatre. The Association would, by this means, bring within its sphere of action minds at present excluded,—acute, observant, powerful, and ori-ginal, who, by this new stimulus, would be roused to still higher efforts.

With the fear of the awful Tuesday at Cambridge before your mind's eye, you will not overlook the little P.S. of the letter, announcing an extremely judicious and considerate part of the scheme, particularly for philoso-phers, whose thoughts may be supposed, on such a mentally exciting occasion, to be any where than occupied about creature-comforts, and whose pockets are not always overbur-dened with filthy lucre.

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If you think what I have now sent you may come in as a supplement to your report of the meeting at Cambridge, and as strengthening some of the opinions you have expressed in regard to ameliorations of the constitution and arrangements of the British Association, it is very much at your service. I am, &c.

ALEX. LOGAN.

Scientific Congress at Caen.

Caen, 10th June, 1833.

SIR,-A taste for inquiry, and the higher branches of knowledge, pervades all classes of enlightened society, and scientific bodies have risen up at all the principal points of the kingdom.

Founded with the praiseworthy object of encouraging useful pursuits, such associations have powerfully contributed to disseminate among us those literary habits now so observable.

They have not, however, completely fulfilled their noble mission. Many of them act within too narrow a circle. The labours of the pro-rincial societies in thus operating separately, and without a fixed general plan, want that ensemble, that unity, which is so much to be

These considerations have suggested the idea of establishing an annual Congress, to be held successively in different cities of France, where the interests of science will be discussed, as legislative bodies assemble to discuss other interests.

We cannot doubt that such general meetings will give a new impulse to scientific research; they have produced in Germany the happiest ects, and we may reasonably expect a similar result from ours.

Under this conviction it has been decided that the first Congress shall be held this year at Caen, a city distinguished for its literary and scientific institutions.

A great number of the most eminent persons in learning and science have eagerly applauded the design, and many have already expressed their intention of presenting communications during the session.

that you will come and join with us in consulting on the means of giving new effect, as well as more unity of action, to the various separate local institutions. We trust, also, that you will be pleased to communicate to the Congress peculiar interest, in regard to the controversy some of the results of your investigations and studies, to which we attach the highest value.

I have the honour to be, &c.

A. DE CAUMONT.

1. The Congress will open on Saturday the 20th of July, at two o'clock, in the hall of the Pavilion Hotel, and will continue at least five

2. The members will be divided into different sections, according to the studies to which they have more particularly devoted their attention.

3. The sections will assemble in their respective places of meeting from eight till twelve o'clock in the morning.

4. A general meeting of all the sections will take place each day from two till five o'clock.

5. Each section to have a president and secretary; the former to be chosen at the first meeting: the secretaries have necessarily been named beforehand, and are as follow:

M. Ami Boué, secretary of the Geological Society of France, for Mineralogy, Geology, &c.; M. Girardin, Professor of Chemistry at Rouen, for Physics, Chemistry, &c.; M. Aug. Le Prévost, of Rouen, for the Fine Arts, Lightenture, and Philography A. de Company Le Frevost, of Rouen, for the Fine Arts, Literature, and Philology; M. A. de Caumont, for Archaeology and History; M. Endes Deslongchamps, Professor of Natural History at Caen, for Natural History, Zoology, Botany, &c.; M. de Lafosse, secretary of the Medical Society of Caen, for the Medical Sciences.

To be admitted to the meetings of the Congress, it is necessary to produce this letter of convocation, which is not transferable.

convocation, which is not transferable.

Members are requested to present themselves immediately on their arrival at the Pavilion Hotel, where the general secretary will inscribe their names and address in a register, and note the communications they propose making to the Congress.

P. S. All the members who may not be otherwise engaged will dine together at five o'clock. A restaurateur will be engaged for

this service on moderate terms.

Returning to our Cambridge meeting, we have to add to the proceedings of Thursday, that in the Physical Section, among the topics of discussion, the following were of peculiar

Some observations having been made on the subject of radiant heat, Professor Lloyd stated, that he had repeated the experiment of the Lloyd concurred.

The instrument invented and described by MM. Nobili and Melloni for measuring very small degrees of heat, called the thermomulti-plier, was shewn to the meeting by Professor Forbes, but could not be exhibited in action owing to some derangement. It is, however, of the greatest consequence to the theory of heat to have it examined, as the results obtained by it have been of a very singular nature, whilst its alleged powers are such as to exceed

We hope that you will also answer the call the principles of capillary attraction. This was now made to all the friends of knowledge, and controverted by Dr. Ritchie, who maintained

now carried on between the supporters of the two theories of light; viz. that which makes it consist in an emission of material particles, and that of undulations propagated through ethereal

Professor Hamilton gave an account of his recent investigations in the mathematical theory. One of the most singular consequences was, that, in certain bodies, a ray pass-ing in a particular direction would be spread out into a cone of light.

out into a cone of light.

Professor Lloyd stated that he had verified
by observation that remarkable prediction from
theory, and shewed illustrative drawings.

Sir J. Herschel read some remarks in reply
to certain objections of Sir D. Brewter, who had contended that the undulatory theory fails to explain the fact, that certain media transmit particular rays of the spectrum, whilst they to-tally stop others. Sir J. Herschel argued against this being any objection, from the analogies of sound, since bodies often vibrate to a particular note only. This called forth from Sir David Brewster an important acknowledgment, that the emission theory cannot now be supported; and that the observations just made went far to remove his difficulties with regard to the

undulating hypothesis.
Some remarks were then made by Mr. Potter and by Mr. Barton, who have both opposed this

and by Mr. Barton, who have both opposed this theory by very ingenious objections.

Professor Airy replied, that the difficulties now urged by the latter gentlemen had been already answered, in a paper by Professor Powell of Oxford, in the Journal of Science.

An account was then given by Professor Powell of his researches, explanatory of the

Powell of his researches, explanatory of the achromatism of the eye.

[To be continued; and, we hope, concluded, in our next Literary Gazette.]

REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

Reckiana; or, Minor Antiquities of Edinburgh, &c. By the Author of "Traditions of Edin-burgh," &c. 12mo. pp. 331. Edinburgh, 1833. Chambers.

FROM the title we might have expected a bottle of smoke, but that the name of Mr. Chambers pre-assured us of some lively gossip and agreeable entertainment on matters of antiquity and ancient lore. Nor have we been disappointed. These minor memorials are a fit sequel to the "Traditions of Edinburgh;" polarization of heat originally proposed by Berard (who conceived he had succeeded), but subsequently repeated by Professor Powell without success; in this last result Professor pidly plunging all that yet remains of what pidly plunging all that yet remains of what was remarkable in the "gude auld toun."

Of the amusing character of his production a notion may be formed by the few selections we shall make, though we will not go so far back as Mr. Chambers, when he tells us —

"The earliest idea we can form of Edinburgh would represent it as a hill-built hamlet, in the shape of a double row of one-story, or at most two-story houses, extending from the esplanade in front of the castle down to the present Netherbow—on the north side a ravine The number at the meeting last year at Vienna, which was attended by M. Boué, one of the secretaries of our proposed Congress, amounted to eleven or twelve handred, among whom were friends and cultivators of hardred, among whom were friends and cultivators of har phenomena of endosmose and exosmose, on another by a narrow crooked pathway, which we have the name of the sound as the success of the sound as Drumsheuch, through which yet roamed the white Caledonian bull, the wolf, the elk, the boar, the deer, with many other animals, now hardly known in Scotland, which, we are assured, did then form the objects of the chase.'

Nor will we stop to contrast the present state of this city of palaces with the picture drawn of it by old Dunbar, about A.D. 1500, when the poet thus rated the merchants for their disregard of its appearance and comforts :

"Quhy will ye, merchants of renown, Lat Edinburgh, your nobill town, For laik of reformation, The commone profesit type and fame? Think ye not schame That uther regioun Sall with dishonour hurt your name? Sall with dishonour nurt your name:
May nane pass throw your principall galtis,
For stink of haddockis and of scaittis,
For cryls of carlingls and debaittis,
For fensum flyttings of defame:
Think ye not schame,
Befoir strangeris of all estaitis,
That sic dishonour hurt your name? Your stinkand scull, that standis dirk, Haldis the lycht fra your parroche kirk; Your foirstairs makis your houses mirk, Lyk na cuntray bot heir at hame; Think ye not schame, So litill polesie to work, In hurt and sklander of your name? At your hie croce, quhair gold and silk Sould be, thair is bot cruds and milk; And at your trone bot cokill and wilk, Panshes, puddingis of Jok and Jame: Think ye not schame, Sen as the world sayis that ilk, In hurt and sklander of your name."

The first portion of the volume consists of The first portion of the volume consists of descriptions of Edinburgh by various writers from very early times, such as Froissart, Alesse, Moryson, Taylor the water poet, the Duc de Rohan, David Buchanan, &c., and comprehending a space from the year 1255 to 1829, when David Wilkie pronounced a panegyric on the modern Athens. Ralph Thoresby might, we think, have made a figure in this list if Mr. Chambers had remembered his journey into Scotland; but what is given is extremely pleasant.

The rest, from p. 65, is devoted to accounts of nearly eighty remarkable houses, sites, and antiquities of every kind; which are indicated by Nos. on a capital map, and referred to so as to furnish a complete idea of the city and these illustrations. No. 9, for example, is "The house of Major Weir," and thus explained:—

"Celebrated in the annals of sorcery and Scottish superstition in general. He was the son of a small farmer near Lanark, and served as a private soldier in the Scottish troops sent over to assist in quelling the Irish rebellion of 1641. Having afterwards risen to the rank of major in the Town-guard of Edinburgh, he became distinguished for a life of peculiar sanctity, even in an age when that was the prevailing tone of the public mind. According to a contemporary account, 'His garb was still a cloak, and somewhat dark, and he never went without his staff. He was a tall black man, and ordinarily looked down to the ground - a grim countenance and a big nose. At length he became so notourly regarded among the Presbyterian strict sect, that, if four me together, be sure Major Weir was one. A private meetings he prayed to admiration, which made many of that stamp court his converse. He never married, but lived in a pri-vate lodging with his sister, Grizel Weir. Many resorted to his house to hear him pray,

was frequently seen at night, flitting, like a black and silent shadow, about the purlieus of that singular street. His house, though known to be deserted by every thing human, was sometimes observed at midnight to be full of lights, and heard to emit strange sounds, as of dancing, howling, and, what is strangest of all, spinning. Some people also occasionally saw the major issue from the low close, at midnight, mounted on a black horse without a head, and gallop off in a whirlwind of flame. Nay, sometimes the whole of the inhabitants of the Bow together were roused from their sleep at an early hour in the morning, by the sound as of a coach and six, first rat-tling up the Lawnmarket, and then thundering down the Bow, stopping at the head of the terrible close for a few minutes, and then rattling and thundering back again - being neither more nor less than Satan come in one of his best equipages to take home the ghosts of the major and his sister, after they had spent a night's leave of absence in their terrestrial dwelling. In support of these beliefs, circumstances, of course, were not wanting. One or two venerable men of the Bow, who had, perhaps, on the night of the 7th of September, seventeen hundred and thirty-six, popped their nightcapped heads out of their windows, and seen Captain Porteous hurried down their street to execution, were pointed out by children in the last age as having actually witnessed some of the dreadful doings alluded to. One worthy, in particular, declared that he had often seen coaches parading up and down the Bow at midnight, drawn by six black horses without heads, and driven by a coachman of the most hideous appearance, whose flaming eyes, placed at an immense distance from each other in his forehead, looked for all the world like the night-lamps of a modern which About fifty years ago, when the shades of superstition began universally to give way in Scotland, Major Weir's house came to be regarded with less terror by the neighbours, and an attempt was made by the proprietor to inhabit it. Such a person was procured in William Patullo, a poor man of dissipated habits, who, having been at one time a soldier and a traveller, had come to disregard in a great measure the superstitions of his native country, and was now glad to possess a house upon the low terms offered by the landlord, at whatever risk. Upon its being known in the town that Major Weir's house was about to be re-inhabited, a great deal of curiosity was felt by people of all ranks as to the result of the experiment; for there was scarcely a native of the city who had not felt, since his boyhood, an intense interest in all that concerned that awful fabric, and yet remembered the numerous terrible stories which he had heard told respecting it. Even before entering upon his hazardous undertaking, William P looked upon with a flattering sort of interestan interest similar to that which we feel respecting a culprit under sentence of death, a man about to be married, or a regiment on the march to active conflict. It was the hope of many that he would be the means of retrieving a valuable possession from the dominion of darkness. But Satan soon let them know that he does not ever tamely relinquish the out-posts of his kingdom. On the very first evening after Patullo and his spouse had taken up their abode in the house, a circumstance took a-burning, as also himself.' For upwards of a century after Major Weir's death, he continued to be the bugbear of the Bow, and his house remained uninhabited. His apparition one in the morning, as the worthy couple were

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ascended from the south, near the castle, and join with him; but it was observed that (since formed into a street, and called the West he could not officiate in any holy duty without Bow)—in all directions around, the forest of the black staff, or rod, in his hand, and leanhe could not officiate in any holy duty without the black staff, or rod, in his hand, and lean-ing upon it, which made those who heard him pray admire his flood in prayer, his ready extemporary expression, his heavenly gesture; so that he was thought more angel than man, and was termed by some of the holy sisters, ordinarily, Angelical Thomas.' It is even stated, by popular tradition, that this magical staff possessed properties of a still more inex-plicable kind. It could run a message to a shop for any article which its proprietor wanted; and though it might be supposed that the tradesmen to whom it applied would naturally look upon it as a rather ugly customer, its appearance in that capacity seems to have excited no suspicions — or else, perhaps, the neighbours were too much under the fear of the major to venture upon making any remark. According to the same veracious authority, this extraordinary stick could answer the door when any one called upon its master; and it used to be often seen running before him, in the capacity of a link-boy, as he walked down the Lawnmarket. After a life characterised externally by all the graces of devotion, but polluted in secret by crimes of the most revolting nature, and which little needed the addition of necromancy to excite the horror of all living men, Major Weir fell into a severe sickness, which affected his mind so much, that he made open and voluntary confession of all his wickedness. The tale was at first so incredible, that the provost, Sir Andrew Ramsay, refused for some time to take him into custody. At length, himself, his sister (partner of one of his crimes), and his staff, were secured by the magistrates, gether with certain sums of money, which were found wrapped up in rags in different parts of the house. One of these pieces of rag, being thrown into the fire by a baillie who had taken the whole in charge, flew up the vent, and made an explosion like a cannon. While the wretched man lay in prison, he made no scraple to disclose the particulars of his guilt, but refused to address himself to the Almighty for pardon. To every request that he would pray, he answered in screams, ' Torment me no more - I am tormented enough already!' Even the offer of a Presbyterian clergyman, instead of an established episcopal minister of the city, had no effect upon him. He was tried, April 9, 1670, at the instance of Sir John Nisbet, King's Advocate, before a learned civilian, Mr. William Murray, and Mr. John Preston, advocates, who were judges by commission for the purpose; and being found guilty, was sentenced to be strangled and burnt between Edinburgh and Leith two days after. His sister, who was tried at the same time, was sentenced to be hanged in the Grassmarket. The execution of the profligate major took place, April 14th, at the place indicated by the judge. When the rope was about his neck, to prepare him for the fire, he was bid to say, 'Lord, be mer-ciful to me!' but he answered, as before, 'Let me alone-I will not-I have lived as a beast, and I must die as a beast!' After he had dropped lifeless in the flames, his stick was also cast into the fire; and, 'whatever incantation was in it,' says the contemporary writer above quoted, 'the persons present own that it gave rare turnings, and was long

This poem we believe has not before been published;
 thow admirable in versification and expression for the eriod!—Ed. L. G.

lying awake in their bed, not unconscious of a considerable degree of fear—a dim uncertain light proceeding from the gathered embers of their fire, and all being silent around them—they suddenly saw a form like that of a calf, but without the head, come through the lower lower inquires after it; in one living ever is a condemned house! There is, we believe, a translation of the saw the inside of it; it is a condemned house! Bible in which the word is used, relating to the low without the head, come through the lower panel of the door, and enter the room: a spectre more horrible, or more spectre-like conduct, tom immediately came forward to the bed, and etting its fore-feet upon the stock, looked seadfastly in all its awful headlessness at the infortunate pair, who were of course almost ready to die with fright. When it had contem-plated them thus for a few minutes, to their great relief it at length took itself away, and, slowly retiring, gradually vanished from their sight. As might be expected, they deserted the house next morning; and for another half me nous next morang; and for another harm century no other attempt was made to embank this part of the world of light from the agres-sions of the world of darkness. The house was at length occupied, first as a workshop, and faally, within the last year, as a dwelling of human beings. It may appear strange that any thing like superstition should exist in Edinburgh, where, in the words of the poet,

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m and all uple were 'Justice from her native skies
High wields her balance and her rod,
And Learning, with his eagle eyes,
Seeks Science in her coy abode;'

but when the reader is informed that such beliefs are only cherished among a very humble or very old-fashioned class of people, his sur-prise will vanish. The truth is, that Edinburgh is at present two cities—two cities not less differing in appearance than in the character of their various inhabitants. The fine gentlemen, who daily exhibit their foreign dresses and manners on Frinces Street, have no idea of a race of people who roost in the tall houses of the Lawnmarket and the West Bow, and retain about them many of the available property. about them many of the primitive modes of life, and habits of thought, that flourished among their grandfathers. Such a race, how-ever, certainly still exists; and in some of the sequestered closes and back courts of the Old special closes and back courts of the Oil fown, there may at this very day be found specimens of people bearing nearly all the cha-acteristics of the seventeenth century. Edin-burgh is in fact two towns more ways than one. It contains an upper and an under town, - the one a sort of thoroughfare for the children of business and fashion, the other a den of retreat for the poor, the diseased, and the ignorant. The one is like the gay surface of the summer sea, covered with numerous vehicles of com-merce and pleasure; while the other resembles the region below the surface, whose dreary wilds are peopled only by the wrecks of such gay barks, and by creatures of inconceivable below to the Coverate. Such being the state of matters, it will no longer seem incredible that legendary superstition should exist in Auld Reekie. There are in fact several houses in the Old Town, which have the credit of being hannted. There is one at this day in the Lawmarket, (a flat,) which has been shut up from time immemorial. The story goes, that one night as preparations were making for a apper party, something occurred which obliged the family, as well as all the assembled guests, to retire with precipitation, and lock up the to retire with precipitation, and lock up the burgh; and, to indicate meant, the parliament of eace been opened, nor was any of the furniture withdrawn;—the very goose which was under the furniture withdrawn;—the very goose which was under the furniture of some going the process of being roasted at the time to form that night to this it has never located by the furniture to form the furniture of the furniture withdrawn;—the very goose which was under the furniture of the furnit

of horror might present themselves, if it were entered! Satan is the ultimus heres of all such unclaimed property. Besides the numberless old houses in Edinburgh that are haunted, there are many endowed with the simple credit of having been the scenes of murders and sui-cides. Some contain rooms which had particular names commemorative of such events, and these names, handed down as they had been from one generation to another, usually suggested the remembrance of some dignified Scottish families, probably the former tenants of the houses. There is a common stair in the Lawnmarket, which was supposed to be haunted by the ghost of a gentleman who had been mysteriously killed, about a century ago, in the open daylight, as he was ascending to his own house; the affair was called to mind by old people, on the similar occasion of the murder of Begbie. A deserted house in Mary King's Close, (behind the Royal Exchange,) is believed by some to have met with that fate for a neved by some to have met with that tate for a very fearful reason. The inhabitants at a remote period were, it is said, compelled to abandon it by the supernatural appearances which took place in it, on the very first night after they had made it their residence. At midnight, as the goodman was sitting with his wife by the fire, reading his Bible, and intending immediately to go to bed, a strange dimness which suddenly fell upon his light caused him to raise his eyes from the book. He looked at the candle, and saw it was burning blue. Ter-ror took possession of his frame. He turned away his eyes from the ghastly object; but the cure was worse than the disease. Directly cure was worse than the disease. Directly before him, and apparently not two yards off, he saw the head as of a dead person, looking him straight in the face. There was nothing but a head, though that seemed to occupy the precise situation in regard to the floor which it might have done had it been supported by a body of the ordinary stature. The man and his wife fainted with terror. On awaking, darkness pervaded the room. Presently the door opened, and in came a hand holding candle. This came and stood—that is, the candle. This came and stood—that is, the body supposed to be attached to the hand stood —beside the table, whilst the terrified pair saw two or three couples of feet skip along the floor as if dancing. The scene lasted a short time, but vanished quite away upon the man gathering strength to invoke the protection of Heaven. The house was of course abandoned, and remained ever afterwards shut up." The Tolbooth is naturally a prominent sub-

ject; and Mr. C. says,—
"When the assassination of James I. at Perth caused the rulers of the kingdom to look to Edinburgh as the future capital of the kingdom, the first general council and parliament of the new reign took place in that town. This council, which assembled in November 1438, was held ' in pretorio burgi de Edinburgh,' a Latinism for the Tolbooth, as all town-houses were then vernacularly called; tolbooth signifying literally the tax-house. The first parliament of the same reign, assembled in January 1449, was held also 'in pretorio burgi de Edin

translator says, "they clapt into the tol-booth." The Luckenbooths were a still more

translator says, "they clapt into the tolbooth." The Inckenbooths were a still more peculiar feature of Edinburgh:—

"This place, the name of which signified shut or close shops, in distinction from the generality, which were open in front, was destroyed in 1817. The shop facing to the Cross was occupied for many years by Mr. William Creech, bookseller, of facetious memory, and who was the publisher of many of the best writings of the Scottish literati, in the latter part of the last century. The shop might be called in some measure the Lounger's Observatory; for it scarcely ever failed to present a phalanx of such individuals, engaged in surveying and remarking upon the busy crowd in front. The flat above Mr. Creech's shop was the shop of Allan Ramsay, after he had removed from the Mercury's Head, opposite Niddry's Wynd; and here he kept his circulating library, established in 1725, and the first of library, established in 1725, and the first of those useful institutions in Scotland.

"The following curious notice of Ramsay's library occurs in the private notes of the historian Wodrow, now preserved in the Advocates' Library:—"May, 1728. Besides this profaneness is come to a great height, all the villainous, profane, and obscene books and playes, printed at London by Curle and otheris, are gote down from London by Allan Ramsay, and lent out for an easy price to young boyes, servant women of the better sort, and gentlemen, and vice and obscenity dreadfully propagated. Ramsay has a book in his shop, wherein all the names of those that borrow his playes and books for twopence a-night or some such rate are set down, and by these wickednes of all kinds are dreadfully propagate among the youth of all sorts. My informer, Lord Grange, tells me he complained to the magistrates of this, and they scrupled at meddling in it, till he mooved that his book of borrowers should be inspected, which was done, and they were alarmed at it, and sent some of their number to his shope to look through some of his books; but he had notice an hour before, and had withdrawn a great many of the worst, and nothing was done to purpose.' It is a curious circumstance that purpose. It is a curious circumstance that this same Lord Grange, (or rather Mr. Erskine of Grange, assuming that designation judi-cially,) who was so noted a protector of good morals, had, two or three years before, immured his own wife in the remote island of St. Kilda, where she spent almost all the remainder of her where she spent almost an the remainder of neilife. This hypocritical wife-killer was a younger brother of the insurgent Earl of Mar, and moved at the head of the whig and presbyterian party in Scotland, thereby disgracing a cause which he was not worthy to serve in the mean-

est office." A whimsical anecdote is connected with St. Mary's chapel, "built in the year 1505 by Elizabeth Countess of Ross, and so denominated from its dedication to the Virgin Mary. It was purchased in 1618 by the corporations of wrights and masons in Edinburgh, who are therefore now known by the name of the United Incorporations of Mary's Chapel. A droll mistake arose out of this circumstance some years ago. An address having been sent up to court by the United Incorporations, and found directed to the Right Rev. the Deacon of St. Mary's Chapel, as if he had been a cler-gyman, and as if Scotland had been an Episco-pal country!"

With this we shall leave our entertaining author to the popular favour his researches have so largely merited, without criticising the dubious expression (p. 305), where Sir Walter Scott is called Miss Swinton's grandson; and heartily recommend it to all the members of the British Association, to prepare themselves by reading not only this volume, but also its predecessors from the same hand, previous to their meeting at Edinburgh in September 1834.

Village Belles: a Novel. 3 vols. 12mo. London, 1833. Baldwin and Cradock.

To us Londoners, and especially to us critics who in the late range of fictions rarely get beyond the bills of mortality, these pages are a complete novelty. Here are love affairs, flirta tions, and marriages, arranged not by dint of an opera-box, the Zoological Gardens, the Park, an opera-box, the Zoological trardens, the rars, or a fête at the Duke's — but by pic-nic parties, tea-drinkings, and long walks through the greenest of shady lanes. The first two volumes are delightful — so natural, yet so animated; and the two sisters—one, "holy, pensive, and demure;" the other lively, full of charming faults, and a coquette of nature's making-are exquisite portraits, we must say-for they are too real not to be drawn from life. The third volume is spun out: we protest against the journey to town; and Rosina and Lewis might have made up their quarrel some two hundred pages sooner than they do. Among the other characters, we must extend our sympathy to Mr. Huntley, whom we consider to be a very illused gentleman. It is curious to observe how the malignity inherent in human nature displays itself: even in " the gentle craft of authorship," a writer every now and then seems to entertain a most step-motherish feeling towards some unfortunate of his own creation; and no treatment is too bad for the luckless object of the inventor's spleen. Now, Mr. Huntley be-longs to this class—a class, by the by, whose wrongs have never met with due attention or sympathy. The young artist is not drawn fairly; we feel that the prejudice of his author is strong against him; he is to serve the purpose of a moral lesson, and is destined to prove that to be very good and very agreeable is almost impossible. But we ask our readers if this is not rather a hard case? Lady Worral is excellent: managing for every body, tire-some to a degree, yet kindhearted in the main the amusement and the truth of the delinea tion go hand in hand. We shall find it difficult to detach an extract, for the interest of the scenes depends much on a previous acquaintance with the actors, and we cannot introduce them in a few brief words. We shall therefore choose one or two slight passages, as specimens

A Cottage. --" Maria had heard that the Wellfords lived in a cottage - a very comprehensive word, which sometimes designates a ground-floor palace. Certainly she was rather surprised to find the White Cottage so very unpretending in appearance; but she praised and admired every thing there was to praise and admire, and drove off with Rosina, leaving Mrs. Wellford and Hannah convinced that she was one of the pleasantest young women in the world. This was very kind and judicious of Maria, for it is easier to put a family out of conceit with their house than to give them

twelvemonth to discover. A few flower-pots, a few books, and one or two pretty faces, convince a gentleman that a mere hovel is a cot-tage ornée; a lady sees that the carpet has been darned, that the chintz furniture has washed out, and that the apparently rosewood table is an imitation.

Consolation and distraction during a cross in love. — "It was fortunate that Rosina's approaching visit to Mrs. Shivers occasioned so much employment for her thoughts and hands. The discovery of Mr. Huntley's supposed in-constancy had wofully depressed her, but with the Pleasance in prospect it was impossible to be quite miserable. She sighed as she absently pinned and placed the sleeve of a frock which she was modernising. The sleeve was stitched into the wrong armhole, and made up inside-outwards, so all her work had to be done over again; and while she was fretting over her stupidity, she forgot to think of Mr. Huntley. Then, when all was once more in a fair train, her thoughts were no sooner off duty than they flew back to the violets, to the Sortes Virgilianæ, to the sittings under the walnut-tree; and just as she was beginning to feel that she should never be happy again, it occurred to her to wonder whether Miss Pakenham always wore silk stockings. Let no one laugh at Rosina; for, amidst the deepest grief, the mind has a natural propensity to relieve itself by momentary distractions of a similar tendency.

Two Marriages. — "The youngest of the two Miss Parkinsons, of Park Place, amazingly disobliged her family by marrying the Reverend Henry Wellford, vicar of Summerfield, who had nothing on earth but good looks, good qualities, and four hundred and fifty pounds ayear, to recommend him. Alas! how did her father storm and rage, how did her mother fume and fret, how did aunt Diana congratulate herself that she had settled her thirty thousand pounds on Hannah, her eldest niece; how did the aforesaid Hannah sneer and observe ' she had thought how it would end,' and how did the good folks of Stoke Barton stare, and sigh, and shake their heads, and bless heaven that no poor vicar had ever fallen in love with any of their daughters! Catherine Parkinson, who had refused Sir Robert Bosanquet! Henry Wellford, who might have had rich Miss Trot ter for asking! So unadvised of both parties! Nobody was surprised at old Mr. Parkinson's shutting his doors for ever against the young couple, or wasted much thought on the fate of the fine young man and the beautiful girl after the first excitement of astonishment was over, except Dr. Pennington, the rector of Stoke Barton; and he was second cousin to Henry Wellford-so no wonder! Miss Hannah, having exhausted her spleen on the subject of her sister Kate's imprudent match. found herself in her twenty-ninth year, on the verge of old-maidism, with

Nobody coming to marry her, Nobody coming to woo'—

not even a poor vicar; and the subject was beginning to give her considerable uneasiness, when her father's heir-at-law, Mr. James Parkinson, who for many years had regularly visited Park Place in the shooting season, came down for the express purpose of making her an offer. He was only too good for her, being cheerful, personable, and easy-tempered. gentleman was accepted, the marriage celebra-ted with all convenient speed, and the wedded pair went steadily through all the gradations customary in the hymeneal state - exactly in another; and a lady cannot help seeing at a the inverse order of those to be found in a Having now introduced the Village Belles, glance what it would take a gentleman a sonata. First they were brillante, and, even we cannot do better than cordially recommend

when the wedding-clothes grew dirty, continued allegro; then sank into allegretto, next to moderato; then came à-capriccio, and at length a monotonous andante, enlivened only by a few of Mr. James Parkinson's bursts à-furore. To say truth, if it had not been for the gentleman's imperturbable good humour, her peevish, frac-tious temper would have been unbearable; and as it was, they went on like two performers on the pianoforte playing separate airs by way of duet-he, in calm serenity, jogging on with 'Just like love' in the bass; while she, in another key, and with shrill vehemence, was running up and down the indignant scales of Trifler, forbear !' in the treble.'

We must add the panorama of the village, especially as it includes the heroines:

Summerfield church, it either has or ought to have been stated, stood on the brow of a hill. When Mr. Russell passed through the little garden-gate which opened into the churchyard, he might, if he turned to the right, behold a very pleasing prospect. Towards the east was seen the steep, straggling street which com-posed the village — a confused and picturesque mixture of whitewashed and red brick tenements, projecting gable-ends, and tall chimney-stacks, beneath elm, poplar, and horse-chestnut trees; Lady Worral's grounds rising imme-diately behind, and, in the extreme distance, a range of chalk hills, at the foot of which ran the high road. Yet towards this view, pretty as it was in itself, Mr. Russell seldom turned when leisure allowed him to choose between his right hand and his left. On the south side of the churchyard lay his favourite gravel-walk, shaded by limes, where he could digest the secondlys and thirdlys of his sermon, or pause to gaze in pleased reverie on the scene below. The valley on this side was deeper than that towards the village, and completely shut in by a chain of hills. The scenery was essentially rural - not a single habitation being in sight, though the smoke from Mrs. Wellford's chimneys rose from behind a clump of trees. valley was intersected by a stream, and chiefly used for pasture. In one spot, therefore, might be seen a Cuyp-like group of cows either graz-ing or standing mid-leg in the water, while at a little distance a snow-white flock of sheep cropped the grass; and the milkmaid's call and the shepherd-boy's whistle were in perfect harmony with the accessories of the picture. Occasionally, too, Hannah might be seen watering the flowers in the neat garden, which, though closely hedged, was, from the height on which the churchyard stood, completely overlooked; and in the perfect stillness which reigned around might even be heard the distant tones of Rosina's girlish voice as she sat at work beneath the walnut-tree. Such was the scene which Mr. Russell loved full well to contemplate, and which, one fine July evening, after some hours of close study, he stepped forth to enjoy. The valley was in all its beauty; the sun threw its slanting beams on the varied green of the foliage and the rich purple of the distance; the milkmaid, in her red petticoat and white apron, was driving home her cows, and singing as the went; the shepherd-boy was peeling a willow-wand, and whistling loud and clear; 'the insect world were on the wing,' and the air was loaded with happy sounds of life. Hannah, too, in her white gown, was sitting beneath the walnut-tree, apparently sympathising with the feelings which made Dr. Paley exclaim, 'It is a happy world, after all !" "

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SHARPE'S PEERAGE: FAMILY ANECDOTES, &c. 2 thick vols. 12mo.

In our brief notice of this elegant production we hardly did justice to the care with which it has been got up, the beauty of the armorial engravings, and the interest of much of the matter introduced, in fulfilment of the writer's excellent design of keeping every family, from the earliest time, with all its collateral honours and descents together, in one point of view. Of this plan we highly approve; and have made a selection of some of the most curious particulars to which we have alluded, as a proof that our praise is fully justified. In the gene-alogy of the Earl of Suffolk, we are told that Craven, brother of the 3d earl, married Mary Bowes, and had issue-

"Henry Bowes, 4th earl. Edward, a minor poet, the butt of the wits of his age, died without issue. Sir Robert, also a minor poet, and more particularly the friend of Dryden. He died 1698, having married four times. line failed with his grandson, 1702. Philip, from whom John, 15th Earl of Suffolk. James, author of two successful dramas. Elizabeth married the author of 'Alexander's Feast,' 'an example of the lyric ode,' says Sir Walter Scott, 'of unapproached excellence.' The record of Dryden's marriage, which escaped the anxious researches of Malone, whose conjectural date, 1665, is also adopted by Sir Wal-ter, fell casually under the notice of the present writer. It took place at St. Swithin's, next London Stone, Cannon Street, where, on the last leaf of a mouldering register, is inscribed, 'John Drayden and Elizabeth Haward married 1 Dec. 1663, by license.' The entry of the license, which is dated 'ultimo Novembris,' 1663, and is in the office of the Vicar General of the Archbishop of Canterbury, describes him as a parishioner of St. Clement's Danes, of about the age of thirty, and the Lady Elizabeth twenty-five, as a resident of St. Martin's in the Fields—probably a visitant at her grandfather's, Northumberland, then Suffolk House. The orthography of the poet's autograph, attached to the entry, is 'Driden.' The editor was unwilling that an ascertained fact, however minute, in the life of an illustrious writer, should be lost. Perhaps he may be allowed to add, that his page is recording the fact in the printing-house at Chiswick, mentioned by Norden in his 'Speculum Brittanise,' as ' the faire manor-house, an appendage, by way of rural hospital, to the foundation school of West minster in 1593, and still held of the college. On the walls of this house,' says Lysons, 'in which Busby with some of his pupils used occa-sionally to reside, the name of Dryden, one of them, was a few years since to be seen.

These are interesting anecdotes of "glorious John." A singular opinion on the evil of Irish absenteeism, so early as the time of Henry VIII., is contained under the title of Lord Aylmer -

"Sir Gerald Aylmer, of Dullardstown, was a judge of the Common Pleas 1532, Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer 1534, and Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas 1535, from whence

judge, among other matters, upon the true cause of the decay of Ireland. 'It was because,' said Sir Gerald, 'the estated men, who used to reside, and defend their lands, and countenance their tenants, did now generally dwell in England, and left Ireland a prey to the natives; but that if his highness would oblige them to residence, or if they did not comply, seize their estates to his own use, he would soon find a reformation.' The king thanked him for his advice—the act of absentees was passed by the next parliament, 1536, and the Earl of Shrewsbury by it for-feited his property in that kingdom."

We should not wonder to see some member of our reformed parliament yet move for the forfeiture of the estates of all Irish absentees; and the application of the same to mitigate the national burdens. The following is of literary interest—it is of Allen, the first Lord

" Lord Bathurst, who was advanced to the earldom in 1771, sixty years after his creation to the peerage, was a remarkable instance of the 'otium cum dignitate;' planting his grounds at his seat at Cirencester after he had reached the age of forty-

"Who then shall grace, or who improve the soil, Who plants like Bathurst, or who builds like Boyle!" He lived to enjoy with philosophic calmness the shade of his lofty trees at fifty years' growth. Swift, Atterbury, and Pope, Rowe, Addison, and Prior, Congreve, Arbuthnot, and Gay, were among his intimates and corre-spondents; and the evening of his life, which had been passed in social intercourse and benevolence, was marked by hospitality and viva-city. Till within a month of his death, he constantly rode out two hours every morning, and drank his bottle of wine after dinner; hence the cheerful anecdote, not yet without its zest by repetition : - Inviting a large party to dinner to meet his son, who had become lord chancellor, the whole company sat late, except the law lord, who took his leave at the decorous hour of twelve. 'Come,' says the aged earl, 'now the old gentleman is gone, we can manage to take another bottle.' He died

The account of the first Earl of Cork is amusing as a recipe to found a noble race:

"Richard Boyle, second son of Roger Boyle,

of Preston, Kent, was the first Earl of Cork, and commonly called 'the Great Earl of Cork. He has left us a narrative of the events of his life, entitled his 'True Remembrances.' He was born 1566, and was of Bennet College, Cambridge, and the Middle Temple; but being the second son of a younger brother, with inadequate means to pursue to advantage the study of the law, he became a clerk only to Sir Robert Manwood, lord chief baron of the Sir Kobert Manwood, ford chief baron of the Exchequer. Perceiving this employment not likely to raise a fortune, he resolved to try abroad. 'And it pleased the Almighty,' to use his own words, 'by his divine providence, to take me, as it were, by the hand, and lead me into Ireland, where I happily arrived at Dublin on Midsummer Eve, 1588. When I first arrived, all my wealth was then but 271. 3s. King Henry VIII. was inclined to prefer him to the Chief Justiceship of Ireland; but his in money, and two tokens, which my mother preferment being opposed by the Earl of Shrewsbury, who represented him as an ignormal man, and unfit for the office, the minerant man and the minerant man norant man, and unfit for the office, the milet of gold, worth about ten pounds; a taffety we can finister, Cromwell, to stem the king's anger at doublet, cut with and upon taffety; a pair of simple:—

them to further notice: natural, lively, and interesting, they well deserve to have their acquaintance cultivated.

| having recommended, as he supposed, an ineficient lawyer, advised his majesty to have some tian suit, laced and cut upon taffety; two conversation with the party, when he expressed his hope that he would find himself mising received from his parent at her death, he because the supposed to the parent of the supposed to the parent of the supposed to the parent of the supposed to the supposed cloaks, competent linen and necessaries, with my rapier and dagger.' The ring, which he received from his parent at her death, he bequeathed, in the sequel, to his daughter-in-law, queathed, in the sequel, to his daughter-in-law, Lady Dungaryan; having worn it for fity-six years; praying her to wear it, 'as a happy, fortunate, and lucky stone,' during her life, and to leave it to her son. He married Joan, daughter and coheir of William Apsley, of Limerick, Esq. one of the council of the province of Munster, who died in childbed, 1599; and with her received estates to the amount of 500*l*. per annum, 'and this,' he says, ' was the beginning and foundation of my fortune.'"

With this selection we think we may for the

present be content; and we are sure our readers will thence be inclined to consult for their own entertainment and information the genealogies of the Howards, Russells, Churchills, Stan-hopes, Sinclairs, Cravens, Ginkells, &c. &c.; all of which are enlivened by remarkable incidents, or rendered instructing by heraldic and historical information.

Songs of Switzerland. By Henry Brandreth, author of "Field Flowers," "The Garland," "Minstrel Melodies," &c. 18mo. pp. 72. London, 1833. Willoughby. Not one of our native minstrels ever tuned

the reed in a more modest and unassuming manner than Mr. Brandreth, who seems to have lived as if his affections for the Muse were sufficiently requited by the pleasures she gave him in return, without caring whether the world was aware or not of these "favours sweet and gracious." Limited numbers (as in the present instance) of small volumes have, indeed, partially communicated the secret; and a circle of friends have long been privy to the assidnous and successful courtship. "The assiduous and successful courtship. "The Garland," "Field Flowers," and other tomes of graceful compositions, as well as separate productions set to music and made popular by being sung, have been so much admired as to induce the author to give us this new series of twenty-seven songs, of which thirteen are detwenty-seven songs, or when turreen are used voted to Swiss subjects. Of their spirit and character a single specimen will afford a favourable idea; and we gladly copy "The Peacott Ciril of Leutenburgen". sant Girl of Lauterbrunnen.

"Who can refuse her Alpine flowers,
Poor child of nature, mountain born?
Were they not cull'd from freedom's slower
And who may freedom's flow'rets scorn?
No troublous cares disturb her rest,
Save when bold hands war's flag unfur!
Then patriot hopes warm e'en the breast
Of Lauterbrunnen's peasant girl.
But when azain, with conquest crown'd. Of Lauterbrunnen's peasant girl.

But when again, with conquest crown'd,
Her love returns—a second Tell;
What joys her young heart twine around,
Or, dashed with fears, her bosom swell;
How bright 'the laughing waters' then!
How white the mists around that curl if
As lightly through the lonely glen
Trips Lauterbrunnen's peasant girl.

Trips Lauterorumen's peasant grrl.
Here, towers the Breithorn's rugged scalp—
There, the wild torrent foams below,
And there, the Wengern's pine-clad Alp
Mocks the cold Jungfrau's prudish brow.
With these to gase on, what the stir
Of crowded marts, or what the whirl
Of mad ambition's car to her,
Lone Lauterbrunnen's peasant girl?

Lone Lauterbrunnen's peasant girl?
Oh! there is many a high-born heart,
With pomp of pride and riches rife,
From its proud wealth would gladly part
To share the peasant's happier life!
For where is he that would not stray
Where, by lone cots, bright waters purl?
Or who would throw the flowers away
Of Lauterbrunnen's peasant girl!

A verse from the miscellaneous songs is all we can find room for; but it is delightfully "Ask not how I love thee,
When thy brasst's least throb
Of sorrow can my boosen
Of every pleasure rob.
Ask not how I love thee,
But look round and see—
Do I gase on others
As I gaze on thee ?"

An engraving of "Wilkie's Dorty Bairn," with a short illustrative poem, is well placed in the midst of this pretty volume.

Horace Walpole's Letters to Sir Horace Mann Edited by the late Lord Dover. 3 vols. 8vo. London, 1833. Bentley.

[Concluding notice.] WE take up this already highly popular publi-cation (inasmuch as we believe a large edition has been sold within two or three weeks) merely for the sake of bidding it a melancholy farewell as the last of Lord Dover's interesting historial exercises; of noticing the characteristic portrait of the writer of these entertaining letters, engraved by Dean, after Zincke, which was not in our rough copy; and also the very useful and well-constructed index which has been added to the last volume. We are gratified to find our appreciation of the work so immediately sanctioned by public opinion.

Harper's Family Library, No. I. The Life of Mohammed. By the Rev. G. Bush, A.M. New York, J. and J. Harper; London, O. Rich.

AMERICA, following our English example, has herewith commenced a Family Library, and certainly it must be said with a good choice of subject. The biography of the great founder of an extensive faith, in a cheap form, and espe-cially at a period when that religion is strongly assailed, must, we should think, be very popular both in the United States and in England The compilation is very fairly made from Sale, Gibbon, Prideaux, Boyle, D'Herbelot, and more recent authors; and a plan of the Caaba at Mecca is an appropriate frontispiece.

The Mirror, Vol. XXI. London, 1833. Limbird.

WITH a portrait of the Ettrick Shepherd as a frontispiece, and an interesting memoir, nearly a hundred other engravings, and an im-mense mass of instructive and entertaining miscellanea, we are well pleased to greet one of our pleasantest contemporaries, with his slight sheets bound up in a more permanent form.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

SOLAR ECLIPSE OF WEDNESDAY MORNING LAST (17TH INST.)

SHORTLY after midnight the heavens in the SHORTLY after midnight the heavens in the direction of the southern horizon were misty, and prevented any satisfactory observations of Vesta and Urams, and the telescopic objects in Sagittarius and Capricornus, referred to in the L. G. of last week. 3^h, Jupiter and Venus beautifully visible. 4^h 20^m, the Sun observed through dense vapours. The commencement of the eclipse was not seen, from the intervention of clouds. 5^h 8^m (clock time), a transient and indictions view of the Sun a transient and indistinct view of the Sun shewed that the dark body of the Moon had entered on the solar disc. 655m, a solar spot emerged from behind the Moon's dark limb. m, the Sun surrounded with an iris.

shone forth with unveiled splendour. During the passage of the Moon over the Sun's disc, the profile of a conical lunar mountain was distinctly observed. The varying positions of the cusps—oblique, horizontal, and perpendi-cular—had an interesting appearance. The extremities of the cusps in general presented exceedingly fine points; these were two or three times apparently blunted, probably from some elevations on the Moon's surface.

Deptord. J. T. Barker.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

KING'S COLLEGE.

THE large theatre of this seminary p an unusually animated scene on Friday the 28th ult. on the occasion of the public distribution by his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, or the prizes awarded to those students of the senior and junior departments who had most distinguished themselves by their assiduity and good conduct during the past academical year. The room, and, indeed, every avenue leading to it whence a glimpse of the proceedings could be obtained, were crowded to excess; and notwithstanding the considerable numbers which the theatre is calculated conveniently to accommodate, not a few individuals who had succeeded in obtaining tickets, unable to effect an entrance into the body of the room, were fain to console themselves for the disappointment, by visiting the museum, library, &c. and inspecting the various departments into which the building is divided. To the right and left of the chairman we noticed the Bishops of London and Llandaff; Earls Brownlow and Howe; Sirs A. P. Cooper, Charles Price, &c.; nor should our gallantry forget to mention, that a tolerably fair portion of the meeting consisted of ladies, who, to judge by their smiling countenances, seemed to take a lively concern in what was going forward.

The interesting business of the day com menced with an appropriate address from the chairman on the object of the meeting, followed by an eloquent discourse by the Rev. Mr. Otter (the principal); in the course of which he passed a high eulogium on the various professors and masters for the able and satisfactory manner in which they had acquitted themselves of the important duties committed to their charge, and spoke in the most favourable terms of the merits of the students gene-rally. As a proof, the reverend gentleman added, of the sound principles on which the Institution was conducted, he need only mention to the meeting, that more than one of the gentlemen who had left King's College at the close of the former academical year, for the purpose of proceeding to our two great Universities, had so eminently distinguished themselves during their sojourn at those vast emporiums of learning, as to reflect the greatest possible credit, not only on themselves, but on the school whose walls

they had so lately quitted.
On the report of the principal and the respective professors, the prizes were then distributed to about twenty youths for distinction in theology, mathematics, and classical, English, French, and German literature. At the conclusion of this distribution, the principal expressed the great satisfaction he felt at having to announce to the assembly, that a mu-nificent friend of the Institution had kindly The uncelipsed part of the Sun was several times entirely obscured and more or less partially concealed by clouds and vapours till himself by his general attainments and good nearly the termination of the eclipse, when it conduct. This prize he, in conjunction with litoure.

the professors, felt no difficulty in awarding to Mr. J. A. Frere (the successful candidate in two other classes); to whom it was accordingly delivered by his Grace, amid grateful plaudits.

The rewards were then presented by his Grace to the junior department; and the ceremony concluded by a prize being given to the most distinguished pupil of each of the district grammar schools in union with the College.

The Bishop of London, in returning thanks to the chairman, could not forego the present opportunity of expressing his regret, before so opportunity or expressing ins regret, before so respectable an audience, that many persons— persons, too, moving in the higher ranks of life, and who could not plead the want of pecu-niary means in palliation of their conduct who, at the birth of the Institution, had styled themselves its friends, and affixed their nan to various sums of money, now left it to its fate, declining to make good their engage-ments; and, what was still worse, refusing to give any satisfactory reasons for their seces-sion, although urged repeatedly by the council to do so, as well as challenged to adduce any single instance wherein the council had swerved from the pledges with which they had originally come before the public. He must say that he thought such persons had acted dis-honourably, and committed a great breach of faith towards those who had fulfilled their part of the engagement; but he still trusted that the British public would, with their usual spirit and liberality, come forward on this occasion with the necessary means for enabling the council to fulfil the compacts they had entered into on the implicit faith of receiving the above defalcation, in order that full effect might be given to the energies of an Institution in which all classes of the community were interested.*

LONDON UNIVERSITY.

On Monday the annual distribution of prizes took place in this Institution; H. R. H. the Duke of Sussex presiding, and the hall crowded with visitors of both sexes. The professors briefly reported on the state of their several classes, and presented the successful candidates for the rewards adjudged, to the royal chairman, who distributed them in a manner to make a lasting impression on the minds of the receivers. Several of the classes it appeared had been but scantily attended; while others, legal and medical, had flourished with increase of strength. In conclusion, H.R. H. addressed the meeting, dwelling on the progress and prospects of the University, in spite of the difficulties against which it had to contend. He warmly recommended the assiduous study of mathematics, as the foundation of all just reasoning, especially in the higher branches of science; and closed a very interesting and gra-tifying scene amid the cheers and gratulations of his numerous auditory.

PINE ARTS.

A NEW PROCESS OF PAINTING.

WE have had the pleasure of seeing Mr. Lamb go through the principal parts of his new pro-cess of painting, the advertisement of which has appeared in several recent Numbers of the Literary Gazette; and it is but justice to that

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^{*} It appears by the public advertisements which from time to time appear in the daily prints, that since the last special general court, held on the 31st of May, an addi-tional sum of nearly four thousand pounds has been already raised for completing the river front of the College; and we are sanguine, therefore, in our expectations of scou be-holding the remainder of the sum required for effecting so great a national embellishment as the finishing Somersei. House subscribed for, and the building completed.

gentleman to say, that it is a process which exhibits considerable ingenuity, and which produces a broad and powerful effect with com-

paratively little labour.

The process naturally divides itself into three The process naturally divides itself into three parts.—The first, is the preparation of the ground. On any primed pannel, canvass, or milled-board (as sold at the colour-shops), a cost is laid of lake-white, ground in oil; and immediately afterwards the pannel (if pannel it be) is held nearly upright, and some finely-pounded white marble, having been put into a sort of muslin bag, is sifted so as to fall upon the wet paint, to which of course it adheres. When the surface appears to be covered in one direction, the pannel is turned, and a fresh shower of marble dust is thrown upon it in mother direction: and so on all round. It snower of marcie dust is thrown upon it in another direction; and so on all round. It is then left to dry. In three days it will become sufficiently firm. A piece of sand-paper is passed over the surface to remove the coarser particles of the marble, which are brushed off with a flat camel's-hair pencil; and the ground is complete. The second part of the process commences by rubbing in all the masses with a sponge, dipped in dry powder-colours. If a landscape, for instance, cobalt may be used for the sky, cobalt and a little lamp-black for the distances, and lamp-black and a little Indian-red for the foreground. The tooth of the ground makes it receive the colours with great facility. The lights are then taken out; first with a piece of white-leather, afterwards with soft bread rolled into the shape of a small crayon, and lastly with a scraper similar to that used by mezzotinto engravers. The sharper shadows and markings may be touched in with Italian chalk. Thus the light and shade and the chiaroscuro are produced. A solution of mastic in spirit of wine is then, by the agency of two small brushes, sprinkled over the surface. The spirit of wine speedily evaporates, and leaves the colours fixed by the mastic. The third part of the process consists in tinting the various objects with cake water-colours; selecting the most vivid and powerful; such as vermilion, chrome, &c.
The scraper may still be used to clear up the lights, if necessary. The picture is then

of course the above is only a general and imperfect description of Mr. Lamb's process. There are several essential points, a knowledge of which can be obtained only by personal communication; but a single lesson will be sufficient for that purpose. To amateurs especially, who have seldom much patience, and are anxious to arrive speedily at some result, the process must be peculiarly acceptable; as it will enable them to finish a picture in a couple of hours; and, if they have any fancy, they may frequently turn to good account the suggestions which the accidental forms produced in the early part of the process (like Cozens's "blots" fifty years ago) will afford. It is an additional recommendation of the process that, the larger the work, the more easy is the execution.

Mr. Hollins' Sculpture.—Mr. Hollins has opened his gallery for a few days; and in addition to works of his, of which we have before spoken in terms of merited eulogium, we have now to notice a Miss Thomson, a child of about five years of age, as one of the most expressive and charming productions which has ever adorned our native school of art.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Gallery of Portraits. Nos. XII., XIII., and XIV. Charles Knight.

XIV. Charles Knight.
LUTHER, Rodney, Legrange, Voltaire, Rubens, Richelieu, Wollaston, Boccaccio, and Claude, are the subjects of these three numbers. Nine great names; well worthy of the illustration both of the pen and of the pencil; and shewing by how many various paths human genius may arrive at distinction! The portraits which please us the most are those of Luther, Rubens, and Boccaccio. The memoirs, like their predecessors, are written with great simplicity and perspicuity.

Valpy's National Gallery of Paintings and Sculpture, with a Description of each Subject, and a brief Memoir of the Artist. Part I.

The object of this publication is "to form a gallery in miniature, on the plan of the Mussie Napoléon, equally adapted to the library or the drawing-room;" and the paintings in the National Gallery in Pall Mall, and the sculpture in the British Museum, are to be its subjects. The present part contains twelve prints. Although but slightly engraved, they convey an adequate idea of the general composition of the originals; and they are accompanied by critical notices of the particular work, and some account of the artist.

Etchings. By Mr. D. C. Read, of the Close, Salisbury. Colnaghi and Son.

When the first series of Mr. Read's Etchings made their appearance, we spoke of them in the Literary Gazette with the admiration which they deserved. He has now published a second series, consisting of fifteen landscape subjects; all bearing evident marks of that improvement which a more intimate knowledge of nature, and still greater practice with the etching-tool, were calculated to produce. Added to the advantages which we have just mentioned, Mr. Read has likewise enjoyed that resulting from a communication with a mind of the highest order, especially capable of appreciating his peculiar style of art. "Accident," he observes in his prefatory address, "threw him in the way of one of the master-spirits of the age—the immortal Goethe; who, standing almost without a rival in the varied paths of literature, delighted to shed a ray of his own light on the humble aspirations of genius, wherever they were to be found. The works which he commended as 'rich in natural beauty and variety,' are now submitted to the public eye." In testimony of his gratitude, Mr. Read has prefixed to his series a head of Goethe, etched from a medal presented to him by that extra-ordinary man.

The quality by which Mr. Read is distinguished, is his power of seizing the larger masses and the more characteristic features of nature, and of transferring them to his copper with singular fidelity, freedom, and force; but with a total and contemptuous disregard of the elaborate and minute beauties of execution which are so highly prized by the merely mechanical engraver. Although Mr. Read expresses all descriptions of subjects with taste, yet unquestionably he is most successful with those belonging to the grand, the wild, and the mysterious. The inspector of these prints will be gratified in proportion to his own knowledge, to the strength and richness of his imagination, and to his consequent power of illumining the obscure, and giving decided form

to that which is only slightly hinted at, or imperfectly (though for the best purposes of art sufficiently) defined.

Portraits of the Principal Female Characters in the Waverley Novels. Parts VII. and VIII. Chapman and Hall.

"THE Fair Maid of Perth," "Edith Plantagenet," "Fenella," "Annot Lyle," "Anno of Geierstein," and "Alice Bridgnerth," are the heroines of these two parts. Our favourites are, "The Fair Maid of Perth," by C. Landseer; "Fenella," by H. Howard, R.A.; and "Annot Lyle," by R. Edmonstone.

Landscape Illustrations of the Works of Sir Walter Scott. Parts XIX. XX. and XXI. Chapman and Hall.

NINE pretty little views. Among the most interesting are, "Dumfries," (a prominent object in which is the monument lately erected to Burns), by A. Chisholm; "Solway Sands," by Copley Fielding; "Craivegar Castle," by D. Roberts; and "Solway Frith," by Copley Fielding.

Architectural Beauties of Continental Europe. Engraved by John Coney, from his own drawings taken on the spot. Part III. Harding.

THE four views in this Part are peculiarly adapted to Mr. Coney's rich and characteristic style of etching outline. That of the interior of the celebrated church of St. Bavon, at Ghent, is peculiarly beautiful.

Kean. Drawn on stone from a mask by R. T. Bone. Lawrance.

Good taste would have suggested the concealment rather than the publication of so painful a spectacle as that which these three heads present.

The Study. Drawn by F. Stone; engraved by J. Egan. Harding.

AND a very charming study too; for what can be a more delightful subject of contemplation than a lovely young creature of seventeen?

The Mourner. Drawn by J. M. Moore; engraved by J. Egan. Harding.
An interesting composition, and a fine effect of light.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

THY NAME.

THY name! that long has been to me A charm no time could yet destroy, The last fond dream of memory, Sole relic of departed joy;

In spite of tears, of vain regret,
An exile from my heart must be,—
For I must study to forget
All that can wake a thought of thee!

I dare not, in the secret night, When all is hush'd but sorrow's sigh, Recall past visions of delight, And breathe that name's soft melody!

'Tis long since this last, ling'ring pleasure
Was all I dared to call my own;
Yet still I watch'd the sacred treasure,
And lived upon a thought alone.

'Tis ended now—what most I cherish,
Torn from my withering heart shall be;
All that has life was born to perish.—
Adien to hope—thy name—and thee!
L. S. COSTELLO.

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MUSIC.

MR. H. RUSSELL'S CONCERT.

On the 8th, at the Argyll Rooms, this young and rising bass singer ventured upon his first public concert; and found, by the attendance that his talents and good conduct had already made him many friends in the best and most respectable circles of London's vast society. We have very frequently had the pleasure of hearing, in the course of the season, and have always admired, his fine organ, as well as his musical abilities as a composer of distinguished merit. By these he has quickly raised himself to the place he now occupies so high in his profession, where there is so powerful a competi-tion. The concert went off with éclat. Meric was the only disappointment; and at the conclusion, Mr. Russell made up for the loss by singing "the Old English Gentleman," in a very effective style.

Madame Castelli's and Signor Arigotti's Concert on Monday exhibited a brilliant concentration of talent to a crowded audience, and afforded an opportunity for contrasting the respective merits of Malibran and Pasta. An aria by Malibran displayed her vast scope of voice, and was executed beautifully. Pasta, in two duets, one with Malibran, and the other with Donzelli, sang in her purest style; and a quartetto by Pasta, Malibran, Donzelli, and Tamburini, was a rich treat. Madame Castelli and De Meric were heard to great advantage; and Signors Arigotti, De Begnis, Begrez, Piozzi, and Miss Bellchambers, are all deserving of high commendation. Mr. Mori's solo on the violin was a fine performance; also a fantasis on the horn by Puzzi; and a quartetto, composed by Sola, admirably exercised the talents of Mori, Sola, Sagrini, Bomoa, and Negri.

NEW PURLICATIONS.

My Native Land, on thy sweet Shore. A Song composed by Miss Hughes. Willis and Co. THIS, we believe, is the first musical composition of a young lady, who is said to have scarcely attained her seventeenth year. In itself the song is very clever, and is conceived in a spirit of much taste and refinement; but it is especially interesting as affording promise of future excellence even of a high order. The young votary of the Muse will no doubt apply herself with ardour to the study of that science for which she is by nature fitted, and celebrity will reward her endeavours.

DRAMA.

COVENT GARDEN.

COVENT GARDEN concluded its season, for the second time (as it closed once before, when the regular corps was dismissed), with the last "last night" of Malibran, who has only performed every day and night since in other places and theatres. We question whether such nonsense as this would be tried or tolerated in any other country except our own; and we do hope that with the next season another and a more rational system will be commenced. It is evident to us, and must, we think, be felt by every management, that the

plain and honest announcement of what is to be done, and by whom, without falsifying notorious engagements of leading actors, and endeavouring to entrap the public by statements of leats appearances, when they are well known to the contract of the contra not to be so, must ultimately be injurious to the interests of all the parties concerned, independently of being disgraceful to the Drama. The style of exaggeration cannot be kept up, and disappointment is the consequence. Arrangements for going to plays to see favourite pieces are baulked, and the disgust which ensues operates as a preventive against going at all. There is not a person living in society in London, who does not meet with perpetual instances of considerable sums being kept from the treasury by these uncertain and equivocal proceedings. The "utmost attractions" become no longer attractions when we find that utmost means only mediocre; and final appearances which turn out to be but the precursors of weeks of renewed terms, as the danseuses or fiddlers do the managers "the favour" or "kindly consent" to "give their valuable services" (for a consideration!) in continuation,* become laughing stocks instead of stock pieces. On every account, therefore, it is to be desired that this absurd adoption of the puppet-show fashion of proclaiming "the most wonderful wonders of all wonders" will be abandoned by the respectable houses; and that recourse will be had to merit which can speak for itself, rather than to trickery, and puffs, and falsehoods. We trust, also, that while we allow full scope and ample encouragement to foreign talent, it will not be permitted, as it has lately been, to supersede native talent in what is called, par excellence, our regular, our legitimate, and our national Drama, and where privileges are claimed on that ground. It may safely be predicated, that if this course is at-tempted, it must lead to failure; for the expense is enormous, and the public taste must fall off from such unsubstantial entertainments. In theatricals, as in gastronomy, it will be found best to have some solids, as well as entrées, vol au vents, and trifles. enough of these remarks, suggested by the end of a dramatic year as unsatisfactory in every respect as any within memory; and without touching on the still greater evil of increased and open licentiousness, which has tended so much to degrade the profession where charac-ter was most to be wished for and esteemed.

On Monday the theatre was crowded by a distinguished audience, and the delightful acting of Malibran was duly appreciated, and applauded to the echo.

HAYMARKET.

On Wednesday evening a new drama was produced here with complete success. The House-keeper, or the White Rose, abounds, like all Mr. Jerrold's works, with striking and dra-matic situations, and the most felicitous and pointed dialogue—equally happy in its epigram and its imagery; the fertile fancy colouring and kindling whatever it touches. The near allusion, and the happy expression, are of per-petual recurrence. To take one instance among many,-the student-hero is declaring that the s experience in the pleasures and follies of life has taught him the necessity of seeking some more substantial pursuit to lead him

On Thursday, after Paganini had performed for his advertised last four nights in London, it was unceremo-niously announced, as a mere matter of course, that in consequence of the extraordinary success which had at-tended these concerts, the signor had been prevailed upon to return from Cheltenham, and to fiddle four nights more!!

for "at thirty we begin to count the mile-stones." But wit is one of those fairy edifices of which it is impossible to give a specimen, "the airy particles elude our grasp;" and wit, a light, poetical, graceful wit, is one of Mr. Jerrold's chief characteristics. We shall not attempt to tell the story :- we hold that no plots sh be revealed, save those which threaten church and state. Our readers, at least, shall be left to the interesting anxieties of how the pretty housekeeper succeeds in her scheme to stoop to conquer the heart of her philosophic cousin; and how, in so doing, she detects the malpractices of an intriguing Jesuit in the service of the Pretender;—while we proceed to commend the style in which the various performers sustained the business committed to their charge. Miss Taylor was delightful,—the assumed sim-plicity, with its occasional gleams of higher breeding and intellect breaking through, was exquisitely masqueraded; and the more serious parts were given with even startling effect ;-a little repose would make the picture perfect;
—a retrenchment of some half-dozen smiles, and an equal number of runs,—also a few ges ticulations,—and the saving would be not only a reform, but an improvement. Mr. Vining threw much animation into the young philosopher, and made his pretty cousin's penchant a very justifiable preference. Mr. Webster's Father Oliver realised the sort of portrait which floats in the mind of all good Protestants, of a hale, calm, designing, dangerous, and trebly hypocritical Jesuit. We could not help contrasting it with his Abbé Gondi, the gay ecclesiastical gallant of last season,—no two characters could be more opposed or better supported. Indeed, we know no actor more various, or one who would be more missed from the boards than Mr. Webster. Buckstone was very good in the country lad, and Mrs. Humby the most natural of natural coquettes. Mr. Brindal looked, dressed, and supported his character of " a man about town" with great spirit, though he rather overdid the last scene. The piece proceeded uninterruptedly, except by applause; and its future announcement met with unqualified approbation. We should think it would read very well. It was followed by those two most laughable little farces, My Wife's Mother and John Jones. Certainly Farren's two selves in these entertainments make us almost doubt his identity. Nothing can exceed his change of countenance while Mr. Waverley is pointing out to Mrs. Quickfidget the necessity and advantage of her marrying her cousin Weasel. First he looks merely a pleased interest in the success of the pleader; gradually some pity for the devoted Weasel steals over his features; and at last his consternation and pity for the approaching doom of the aforesaid gentleman break out in the inimitable ejaculation of, "What can he have done to Ned Waverley!"

ADELPHI.

THE Convent Belle, which was produced on Monday week, and justly condemned for too much freedom of speech, was reproduced on Saturday, expurgated of the doubles entendres, which it seems strange that any clever writer should venture to introduce when so entirely opposed by the better feeling of our day. As a drama there is not much in this piece; but the songs are worthy of Mr. Haynes Bayly, and the music, by Millar, is very pleasing. On Thursday another novelty, called the Yeoman's Daughter, appeared, and was excellently acted by Mr. Williams, Mr. Serle, Reeve, Salter, delights to be ex Stran sole an and ven Miss E at the s

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A word on this subject. There has been such a run throughout the season for the assistance of the most popular musicians, that they have often engaged themselves for more occasions than they could attend; and the consequence has been, that almost at every entertainment of the kind, two, three, four, five, or six of the parties and things announced in the bills have been apologised for—the former not appearing, and the latter not bring performed.

and Mrs. Waylett, whose ballads are always delightful. As a mixture of the pathetic and the ludicrous, the *Yeoman's Daughter* bids fair to be extremely popular.

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Strand Theatre.—After seventy nights of sole and unaided performance, in which great and versatile talents were abundantly displayed, Miss Kelly took her leave on Friday-week; at the same time expressing her expectation of meeting her friends again, in the regular English drama, at this small and convenient

Victoria Theatre. — Dramas seem now to be anumnal fruits, at least if we may judge by the new productions of the present week. On Wednesday the King's Fool, from the pen of Dr. Millingen, was brought out here with entire success. Abbott, as Francis I., and Warde, as his celebrated jester Triboulet, sustained the principal male characters to admiration; and Miss Sidney and Miss Horton were sweet warblers in that gay court. The former sang "A pretty bird sat moping," and the latter, "The spur of the soldier," both composed by Nathan, with great beauty and effect. They are charming ballads, and do much credit to the lighter taste of this very able musician. We are happy to find this theatre getting into full play, with good pieces of a highly attractive character, and well performed to full audiences. We shall not unravel the serious plot of this Old Man's Curse, but warn our readers that it is at once interesting and amusing.

SIGHTS OF LONDON.

ONE of the most striking and pleasant of the sights which London occasionally offers, was witnessed on the river on Thursday; which turned out to be an auspicious day of sunshine for the aquatic excursion of the Lord Mayor in his barge to Twickenham. The barge itself, attended by the navigation barge of ancient and chivalric appearance, is a fine object; and filled, cavanic appearance, is a nne object; and nnea, as in the present instance, with several hundred well-dressed guests, it looked not only like a thing of life, but of very lovely and animated life. Under the awning, younger parties danced to an excellent band; and when moored off Pope's villa, a sumptuous dinner was partaken of, with excellent wines and a magnificent dessert. The King and Queen were drank most loyally; Lord John Churchill, the Lord and Lady Mayoress, and other appropriate toasts, were subsequently given, in doing which several short and able speeches were delivered. The ladies landed to tea on the fine grounds of Sir Wathen Waller, who, as a private friend of the Lord Mayor, added this new and unusual compliment to an entertainment otherwise as companient to an entertainment of activities agreeable as could well be devised. The Recorder, several aldermen, and distinguished individuals not connected with the city, enjoyed the treat; and it was night before the social party disembarked at Kew bridge, highly distance of the country o delighted with their reception and the polite-ness, good humour, and liberality of the chief magistrate and his lady.

VARIETIES.

Fine Words.—A Sheffield paper states, that the potato-crop has failed in the district of Marshland: "to speak accurately," because of the sunny days of May "rendering the process of evaporation extremely rapid, and consequently highly frigerative."

The Home Government, we are happy to learn, have sent out a gentleman of known abilities to fill the situation of botanist and curator of the botanical garden at Sydney, with a salary of 6001.—Hobart Town Courier, Janu-

Vauxhall .- On Monday a Fancy Fair in these Gardens, for the benefit of the Establishment for curing Diseases of the Ear, was numerously attended; and Paganini and other artists entertained the company with various music. On Thursday, by way of a treat to the children congregated at a juvenile fête, a fellow who was acting hanging (a pretty and instruc-tive spectacle!) actually hanged himself, and was only cut down (what a pity!) in time to save his life.

St. Alban's Abbey.—The Morning Herald of Monday makes a forcible appeal to the public for the subscription to preserve this noble piece of architecture, as it seems only 2000l. of the 5700l. required for that object have been raised. In this appeal we most cordially join; but surely there should either be in the funds of government, or in those for building new churches, a wherewithal to be applied to save this ancient and interesting structure from crumbling into ruin. No absolutely national object, such as Capt. Back's Expedition, or the present purpose, ought to depend on private munificence, as if their fate rested on a popular

British Museum.—The gratification derived by the public from visiting the British Museum, may, to a certain extent, be estimated by the number of persons admitted to see it on the public days. These, during the last month, have amounted to considerably more than thirty-five thousand. We rejoice with every lover of antiquity to learn that the Bronzes of Syris have been purchased for this Institution.

Earthquake. — The Nottingham Journal states, that the shock of an earthquake was experienced at Sutton in Ashfield on Saturday week; and on the following day there was the most violent thunder-storm ever remembered.

Mrs. Inchbald.—It is mentioned in the "Me-moirs of the late Mrs. Inchbald," that she sat for her portrait to Russell, Hoppner, K. Porter, and Sir Thomas Lawrence; but there is no mention of one for which we know she sat to R. M. Paye—most likely at the desire of Doctor Wolcott, at that time friendly to the artist, and a great admirer of the lady. This portrait was exhibited at the Royal Academy. She was painted in a close kind of black habit, pen in hand, as in the act of composition. Her hair, without powder, negligently, though tastefully, arranged; her face was beautifully oval; and it was remarked by the artist, that the nose was in perfect drawing,—a circumstance he had rarely met with in any of his sitters.* The following is quite in keeping with the character of Mrs. Inchbald, as given in the memoir:—At an early period of her life, when in the green-room, or other part of the the-R. M. Paye-most likely at the desire of Doctor in the green -room, or other part of the the-atre, one of the performers, distressed about the delivery of a note, said he would give half-a-crown to any one who would take it for him. Mrs. Inchbald immediately closed with the proposal, and took it accordingly. Very late in life, and when living with Mrs. Voysey, in Leonard Place, Kensington, she observed one of the ledge ledgers and life. the lady lodgers mending a hole in a black silk gown. "Why do you give yourself that trouble?" said Mrs. I.; "I always mend the

It is curious enough, that not one nose in five hundred is truly in the centre of the face.

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METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL, 1833.

July.	Thermom ster.				Barometer.	
Thursday 11	From	39.	to	72.	29-86 to 29-83	ı
Friday · · · · 12		48.		65.	29.81 29.97	,
Saturday · · 13	****	47.	100	63.	29.85 29.90	
Sunday 14	****	45.	0.00	71.	29.90 stationary	
Monday · · 15		46.		75.	29-91 29-98	
Tuesday 16		49.		74.	30.08 30.14	
Wednesday 17		49.		78.	30.15 stationary	1

Prevailing wind N.W.

Except the three last days, g enerally cloudy; rain on the evening of the 11th, but not measurable.

Edmonton.

CHA BLES HENRY ADAMS.

Latitude · · · · · 51° 37′ 32″ N. Longitude · · · · 0 3 51 W. of Greenwich.

east—4 South-east—9 South-west—3 North-west.

General Observations.—The month was considerably colder, as regarded the mean tempe rature, than the same month in the years 1831 and 1832, a though the maximum was higher than any since June 189 5. The barometer was low, the mean being very nearly the same as in the corresponding month last year; but be that he extreme were lower. The quantity of rain was much less than last year. On the 11th was experience 1 one of the heaviest gales of wind at S.W. witnessed for many years at the same season; it continued through the whole day and night; much damage was done to the trees and shrubs. A slight storm of thunder and lightning on the 20th, about 4 p.al.

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